FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

5 FEBRUARY 1987

Iran-Iraq War

Iran's War Information Headquarters called on Baghdad residents to evacuate the city 5 February because "heavy attacks" on the Iraqi capital are imminent, IRNA reported. Iran will retaliate for continuous Iraqi raids on Iranian residential areas, the statement said. The Iranian warning followed Iraqi air strikes on Qom, Tabriz, and Esfahan 4 February, announced by Iraq in a statement broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. IRNA said the raids on Tabriz and Esfahan caused casualties, though no one was hurt in Qom. More casualties were inflicted in a 5 February Iraqi raid on Shushtar, near Dezful, Tehran radio reported.

While IRNA no longer provides casualty figures for each air raid, the agency disclosed in a 4 February report that over 2,000 Iranian civilians were killed and over 6,000 wounded in raids during "the past few weeks." The casualties included 400 killed and over 1,000 wounded in the 31 January attack on Orumiyeh.

Iran

Seib Expulsion — U.S. journalist Gerald Seib will leave Iran 5 February and will be banned from returning, IRNA reported.

Execution Order — The Supreme Judicial Council confirmed the death sentences handed out to six "spies and terrorists" and ordered that the executions be carried out, Tehran radio disclosed.

Polish Visitor — In a meeting with the visiting Polish foreign minister, Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi expressed hope that Eastern European countries will begin effective movement toward "a more correct understanding" of the world Islamic movement, according to Tehran radio.

Egypt

MENA transmitted the text of a decree by President Husni Mubarak calling on voters to participate in a 12 February referendum on the dissolution of the People's Assembly. Mubarak explained his decision in a statement cited by the agency, stating that he has proposed dissolving the assembly in order to apply the new electoral law, which provides for "broader participation" by combining party lists and individual candidates. MENA reported favorable comment on Mubarak's decision from leaders of the Liberal Party, the Socialist Labor Party, the Neo-wafd Party, and the NPUG, though the latter called for further changes in the election law.

Lebanon

Waite — A senior militia official in West Beirut said that Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite was kidnapped because he failed to honor guarantees concerning the fate of 17 Arabs detained in Kuwaiti prisons, Voice of Lebanon radio reported.

Camps War — Despite the latest cease-fire agreement, Beirut radio reported that intermittent clashes continued between Amal and Palestinian gunmen in the Shatila and Burj al-Barajinah areas.

Al-Jumayyil in Amman — President Amin al-Jumayyil began a 3-day visit to Jordan 4 February, Amman radio reported, noting that he discussed Lebanon and other issues in talks with King Husayn.

Israel

Rabin Interview — Speaking on Jerusalem television's "Moqed" program, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin expressed doubt about the effectiveness of any operation to free foreign hostages in Lebanon, adding that it is hard to believe the United States will carry out a punitive operation because this would endanger the hostages. On Israel's role in the U.S. deals with Iran and the Nicaraguan Contras, Rabin stated that the U.S. Senate Intelligence Committee report is "inaccurate and incomplete" and it "reached the wrong conclusions." Rabin said he was asked to assist the Contras by a prominent member of the National Security Council, who was told in reply that Israel would not help either with weapons or with advice.

Vanunu — Commenting on Mordekhay Vanunu's appeal against being held in solitary confinement, the State Attorney's office said he is in confinement for reasons of state security and his personal safety, Jerusalem radio reported. Vanunu, who is on a hunger strike, recently tried to disclose secret information in a meeting with his relatives, the radio said.

Libya

Relations With PLO — Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi received PLO deputy military commander Khalil al-Wazir 3 February, Algiers Voice of Palestine radio reported, adding that they discussed the attacks on Palestinian camps in Lebanon and reviewed ways to strengthen Palestinian unity. The radio said the meeting was "positive," noting that Al-Qadhdhafi expressed Libya's support for Palestinian struggle and unity. For Libya's part, Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio mentioned the meeting took place but gave no further details.

Palestinian sources cited by the UAE paper *Al-Ittihad* said that Al-Qadhdhafi expressed a desire for Libya to host the next PNC meeting, WAKH noted.

Involvement in Chad — A communique broadcast by Ndjamena radio announced that Libyan aircraft bombed Fada 3 February, and a related commentary by the radio warned that the attack may be the prelude to "large-scale" Libyan operations. Col al-Qadhdhafi subsequently warned that the conflict in Chad is likely to become "serious" and he urged France to "tiptoe out" of Chad to avoid the wrath of a "people's war," according to AFP.

PDRY

Defense Minister Colonel Salih 'Ubayd Ahmad affirmed that there are no Soviet military bases in the PDRY. Speaking in a magazine interview reported by Aden radio, he also claimed that the PDRY Armed Forces have overcome the "negative effects" of the "conspiracy" in January 1986 and have reached a "high degree of permanent readiness."

Pakistan-India

Pakistan and India have reached an understanding to defuse tension and withdraw troops to peacetime positions in the border areas, a Pakistani official announced in remarks reported by Karachi radio.

Both sides will exercise "extreme restraint" and will desist from "provocative" acts, he said.

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AL-TADAMUN Interviews Palestinian Leaders

PM041555 London AL-TADAMUN in Arabic
31 Jan-6 Feb 86 pp 20, 21

[Interview with Nayif Hawatimah, DFLP leader, and Hani al-Hasan, Fatah Central Committee member and political adviser to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, by Salih Zaytun in Damascus; date not given]

[Excerpt] [introductory passage omitted] *Al-Tadamun*: The Palestinian forces and factions have made intensive efforts to restore Palestinian national unity. How much progress have such efforts made and what have they achieved?

Hawatimah: We do not look at the question of restoring the PLO's unity simply as a daily concern, but we also believe that the revolution and our people's national cause have become closely and directly linked to this great national objective. From the moment the crisis broke out in the ranks of the Fatah movement, and consequently in the PLO, we realized the exceptional importance of preserving the PLO's organizational integrity on the basis of a national consensus. In light of the readiness of the majority of the Fatah Central Committee to deal with the issues of national unity in a more serious manner. we have, in accordance with our realistic pro-unity line, sought to call Fatah leadership and other Palestinian parties to an unconditional dialogue on the basis of the PLO's national program. And in response to Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid's initiative and to our call, the Moscow meeting took place between delegates from the DFLP, Fatah Central Committee, and the Palestinian Communist Party. During that meeting, directly under the auspices of the Soviet leadership, it was possible to draw up the fundamental political and procedural basis for dialogue.

Within this context the Fatah Central Committee made a clear pledge to cancel the Amman accord, and to resolve all issues that were the subject of dispute with the DFLP and the other Palestinian factions on the basis the national consensus program. The three sides agreed to invite the other Palestinian factions and personalities to initiate a national dialogue on the basis of the PLO's national program and the national consensus resolutions of the 16th PNC held in Algiers in February 1983. They also agreed to consider the Aden-Algiers agreement as the basis for developing the situation in all PLO leadership institutions, with a view to ending to individualism and monopolization of the PLO's leadership and to forming a collective leadership that would lay down and implement the daily political, military, financial, organizational, and diplomatic decisions for all the PLO and its institutions. [passage omitted]

Therefore the agreement on restoring unity now seems to be clearer than ever before, despite the obstacles and the attempts to disrupt it from within the Palestinian arena and from certain Arab quarters that, for selfish reasons or suspect political objectives, do not wish national unity to be restored. The three forces that have drafted this agreement will continue their serious endeavors with the backing and support of the great majority of our people.

Al-Hasan: The fact is that such unity does basically exist between the Palestinian people and their leadership. This has been proved by the recent poll, conducted by three institutions — one American, one Australian, and one Palestinian — in the occupied territories. It has shown that 92 percent of our people stand with their organization and that 87.7 percent have voted for Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] as their leader. This goes to show the standing of other leaderships among our people, since their political or organizational views had little effect on our people. Therefore we say that national unity practically exists, but there remains the question of unity of factions. We, of course, consider this a vital and important matter because our Palestinian people are absolutely in need of the solidarity of all factions, both big and small.

We have made offers to [PFLP leader] Dr George Habash and to the DFLP backed by Soviet guarantees. It is now up to them to respond. We will certainly try to help them as much as we can to make decisions that we do not think are difficult. The disagreement between Fatah and the other organizations is insignificant, but the problem lies in the fact that the other factions depend on Damascus, a fact that hinders their ability to take an initiative in this direction.

I believe the PLO will resolve all matters during 1987, particularly matters pertaining to its existence, maintaining its independence, and regaining Arab support for it. The plan aimed at liquidating the PLO has begun to lose ground and is on the verge of total failure. The parties behind this plan, and particularly the Syrian regime, will find no alternative to reaching an understanding with the PLO, especially if this regime wishes to halt the successive failures of its policy in the area, particularly in Lebanon. Therefore, the other organizations will become more daring in making decisions because the Syrian factor will have less influence on them.

Al-Tadamun: How do you evaluate what is happening in the Palestinian camps in Lebanon?

Hawatimah: Everbody knows that what the Palestinian camps in the south are suffering is neither new nor surprising — at least as far as we are concerned. Several massacres have been perpetrated against the camps in Beirut during the past 2 years. [passage omitted]

What is happening now is that Israel and the Amal leadership are trying to reach an understanding and establish calm in the area by pressuring the Palestinian camps and forcing them to surrender the arms with which they are defending themselves in the midst of a forest of guns surrounding them. When they failed to achieve this peacefully, then bombing the camps and killing the sons of the Palestinian people became justifiable for them. Their methods are even more cruel than those that Zionist Israel has used against the Palestinian people, Lebanon, and the other Arab peoples during 40 years of conflict.

On the basis of its experience in the years after the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in 1982, the Palestinian people refuse to surrender their arms. The international guarantees that were given following the departure of the resistance from Lebanon did not protect the inhabitants of Sabra and Shatila from the fascist and Zionist massacres in which thousands fell, nor did the Arab pledges and declarations protect these camps against the 1985 and 1986 massacres, nor did they stop the massacres by Amal leaders in the south. The right of the Palestinian people to carry arms in defense of their life and livelihood is a vital matter over which no Palestinian party will compromise, particularly in view of the escalation of Israel's aggressiveness. Just as this people bravely defended the camps in Beirut, it will defend Al-Rashidiyah and other camps regardless of the difficulties.

Al-Hasan: The recent round of the camps war, which has been going on for more than 3 months is not the first of its kind. The purpose of all these wars is to disarm us. The Palestinians have realized that who he lays down his arms gets killed and he who refuses to be disarmed will be saved. [passage omitted]

In any case this war will continue as long as the Amal Movement continues to play the role assigned to it by the forces that are backing it, be this through the Israeli infiltration of the movement or through the Syrian regime which is instigating it. Our people are compelled to defend their existence in the camps because they realize that leaving those camps means destruction. [passage omitted]

Military Council Begins Session in Baghdad

JN041926 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic
1815 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] Under the chairmanship of brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], the Higher Military Council of the Palestinian revolution began a session at the PLO office in fraternal Iraq this morning. The council will discuss the latest developments in the Palestinian arena, especially the continuous tripartite aggression against Palestinian camps in Lebanon and the situation inside the occupied homeland.

The Palestinian Military Council began its work this morning by observing a minute of silence to honor our righteous martyrs, including Shatila commander hero martyr 'Ali Abu Tawq and his deputy, hero martyr Samir Amin Dhiab. In a short briefing, Abu 'Ammar reviewed the latest military and political developments relating to the continuous aggression against the Palestinian camps, as well as the situation inside the occupied homeland and the growing repression against our people by the Zionist occupation authorities and their terrorist gangs. The Higher Military Council will continue its meetings this evening to complete its discussion of topics on the agenda.

Al-Wazir To Head Delegation to Jordan 7 Feb

JN041533 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1500 GMT 3 Feb 87

[Text] In Amman an informed Palestinian source has said that Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir] will leave for Jordan on Saturday to head the Palestinian side to the forthcoming meeting of the joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee.

Mahmud 'Abbas Meets USSR Ambassador in Tunis

JN041934 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic
1815 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] Brother Abu Mazin [Mahmud 'Abbas], PLO Executive Committee member and Fatah Central Committee member, met with Soviet Ambassador to Tunisia Comrade Vselovod Kizichenko in Tunis last night. During the meeting, which lasted approximately 1 hour, they reviewed current political developments on all levels, especially developments in the Palestine question and the increasing aggression against Palestinian camps in Lebanon.

Salah Khalaf Views French Hostages in Lebanon

PM031110 Paris LE MATIN in French 29 Jan 87 p 7

[Interview with PLO leadership member Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf] by Alain Chemali in Tunis — date not given]

[Text] "The key to the affair of the French hostages in Lebanon is the release of Anis Naccache." Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], PLO number-two man and head of the Palestinian intelligence services, was categorical on this point. "All other demands have gradually been added, but this demand has remained just as strong since the hijacking of the Air France Boeing to Tehran in August 1984."

At the time the hijackers demanded the release of the five members of the commando group that tried to assassinate Shahpur Bakhtiar, the shah's last prime minister, in Neuilly in July 1980. "I approached Rafiqdust, head of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps, to ensure that the passengers were at least taken off the plane before the hijackers blew it up."

Why do they want the release of Anis Naccache, who is now in prison in Godets, in the Allier department? This Lebanese-born Sunni, who became a supporter of Khomeyni, was responsible for the first Iranian overseas operation after the victory of the Islamic Revolution. "He acted on the basis of a religious pronouncement by Imam Khomeyni," Abu Iyad explained, "and the entire hijacking was planned by Rafiqdust himself."

Naccache wrote to Imam Khomeyni from prison to explain the situation to him, and it therefore became necessary for the Islamic Republic to show that it does not abandon its children, especially when they are "heroes."

"I explained this demand to Pierre Joxe several time before 1986 and, 2 weeks after the Chirac government took office, I repeated the same explanation to [French Security Minister] Robert Pandraud. This is obviously a serious problem for France because a policeman was killed during the operation and another was paralyzed.

"I think the French officials face a very difficult choice, and I have said this to them: Either they break laws and principles and release the people they are holding, or they must forget the hostages because the kidnappers will bring them to their knees." This question is now far from being settled. Naccache can only be released as the result of a presidential pardon, and Francois

Mitterrand is waiting for a written request from the government before he gives that pardon.

The kidnappers' other demands are known, but Abu Iyad explained that "Iran is not asking for an end to arms sales to Iraq, for Iran too would like to receive French arms."

From his residence in a suburb of Tunis, Abu Iyad, whose real name is Salah Khalaf, painted a picture of the complications of these hostage affairs. He stated with great assurance: "The Hizballah, Islamic Jihad, the Revolutionary Justice Organization, and the Oppressed of the Earth are all the same thing. And they are all working for Tehran."

This is the first time that a senior Palestinian official has lifted the veil over what was hitherto just a collection of "mysterious and clandestine groups." "This edifice," he explained, "functions as a real party and all the different names the Hizballah may take are merely covers for its operational wing."

For 2 years, the PLO has been engaged in mediation to secure the release of the French hostages. "Our role is limited," Abu Iyad admitted, "because the doors between Tehran and us are virtually closed. But we have kept some contacts with the Hizballah. The latter are opposed to the camp war between the Amal Shi'ite militia and the Palestinians in Lebanon, and they have declared that anybody who kills a Palestinian is 'impious.'

"In addition, we have maintained personal relations with some pro-Iranian Shi'ite leaders. They did not suddenly emerge, and we have known them for a long time. For instance we have protected Shaykh Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah, Hizballah's spiritual guide, from the Iraqi secret services on several occasions, and he is well aware of that."

It is through these contacts that the PLO has recently asked "elements of the Palestinian organization to approach the Revolutionary Justice Organization to secure the release of the French hostages. The request related to all the hostages, but we only secured Cornea's release." This led Jacques Chirac to thank the Palestinian officials.

The thanks to the Syrian officials "for their responsible attitude" were due to "a telephone call from the prime minister to President al-Asad that made it possible to rapidly locate the incident near the Beaurivage Hotel during which Cornea was released," Abu Iyad said.

In his view, "this release could only have been made with Tehran's go-ahead and Damascus does not even have a secondary role in these matters. Any Syrian dialogue with the Hizballah depends on Tehran."

With regard to the price paid by France for the release of some French hostages, Abu Iyad said: "To the best of my knowledge, I have never heard any talk of money." However, the Palestinian official explained that "to calm down Syria, which was furious about the American Jacobsen being released behind its back," Tehran accepted the "gesture" of allowing some hostages (Philippe Rochot, Georges Hansen, Camille Sontag, and Marcel Coudari) to be released via Damascus. "These releases were also aimed at achieving progress toward the normalization of Franco-Iranian relations."

Abu Iyad also thinks that the United States' supply of arms to Iran was aimed merely at securing the release of American nationals. "Of course, the negotiations involve international politics at a high level, but the explanation about moderates and extremists is merely a smokescreen. Khomeyni is still in Tehran, and he is pulling the strings."

The PLO number-two man said sarcastically: "Every time an agreement was reached between Washington and Tehran, payment had to be made to the kidnappers; and the price of an American hostage has soared, going from 1 million dollars, to 2 million and then 3 million dollars." The kidnappers intend to obtain payment for "the cost of keeping the hostages, and this money," he said with a shout of laughter, "serves to strengthen their organization to enable them to take more hostages."

With regard to recent reports about another wave of terrorist attacks in France, Abu Iyad said that "these reports are linked to the progress in negotiations with Iran. However, I think that in view of the security system established by the French, it would be very difficult for these attacks to reach the same degree of violence as the previous wave."

AL-YAWM AL-SABI' Interviews Yasir 'Arafat

JN312056 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1753 GMT 30 Jan 87

["Extensive excerpts" from an interview with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, identified by his nom de guerre Abu 'Ammar, in Tunis by unidentified correspondent from the Paris-based magazine *Al-Yawm al-Sabi'*, published in its 28 January issue; date not given]

[Text] *Al-Yawm Al-Sabi'*: Brother Abu 'Ammar, you have just returned from Baghdad. Would you described to us your impressions of the situation on the Iraqi front?

Abu 'Ammar: You should know that the basic objective of the Iranian offensive, Karbala'-5, is to move toward Basra. However, despite the fact that 10 days had passed, the Iranians could not advance toward Basra, except for several kilometers in swampy land south of the artificial Al-Asmak Lake. The Iraqi forces contained the offensive. The Iranians launched successive offensives daily to penetrate Iraqi positions, but all have failed. The Iraqis confronted all these offensives. According to the information we have from more than one source, it is certain that thousands of Iranians were killed.

Al-Yawm Al-Sabi': Western media talk daily about intensive civilian emigration from Basra and media reports indicate that Basra is threatened.

Abu 'Ammar: Because of the continuous, violent, and intensive shelling of the Basrah area, families were allowed to move, and in fact, some of the families moved. This is an appreciated measure by the Iraqi leadership to protect its people and masses, particularly since Basra became a permanent target of Iranian artillery and missiles. As you know, Basra is 20 km from the Iran-Iraq border. Regrettably, the Western media, particularly the British media, have ulterior motives for a bias toward the Iranian side. As is known, the Al-Faw offensive, which took place last year, was in accordance with British military planning. I have accurate information about this. There is Iranian-British coordination. Its real reasons lie in the great British economic interests in Iran, which increased after the removal of the shah. The copper mines deal obtained by Britain was the last one. [sentence as heard]

Al-Yawm Al-Sabi': U.S. statements say the United States will not allow the occupation of Basra, although it financed and armed the new Iranian offensive. What is your opinion of this contradiction between the two U.S. stands?

Abu 'Ammar: The United States has lost credibility in all it says. It is only trying to blackmail the Gulf states by such statements. The Iraqi military situation is sound and solid. Such statements serve nothing, except the desire to blackmail the Gulf states.

Al-Yawm Al-Sabi': Is it possible that these battles will be exploited for an armed U.S. interference in the Gulf?

Abu 'Ammar: I previously talked about this subject. I frankly told the Islamic Good Offices Committee entrusted to mediate to end the war, and wrote to the Iranian leadership, that the continuation of the war is a call for U.S., British, and French fleets to enter the Arab Gulf and be stationed there. I told them: You are giving pretexts and justifications to these forces and to the Great Satan, as you call it, to gain a foothold in the Gulf because you continue to reject all Islamic, nonaligned countries', and UN solutions.

Al-Yawm Al-Sabi': You are now in Tunis after a long absence. Does this visit have any particular meaning?

Abu 'Ammar: Absolutely not. One week ago I was on a visit to Algeria. Then I stayed for 2 days in Tunis. Once again I went to Baghdad when the battles began east of Basrah to stand by the side of our Iraqi brothers while they were defending their territory, Arab territory, and the east flank of the Arab nation. When I was reassured about the course of the operations and about the Iraqi capability to contain the situation — and after it was really contained — I came to Tunis to continue talking over some matters with my brothers in the Palestinian leadership. I hope I will have an opportunity to meet some brother Tunisian officials.

Al-Yawm Al-Sabi': Are you happy with Palestinian-Tunisian relations?

Abu 'Ammar: I have no complaints. We will not forget the hospitality shown by Tunisians in putting up with the Palestinian burden. The Palestinian burden is something that not everyone can bear. We represent a political and military weight. I want to point out, however, that we have liquidated our military presence in Tunisia, retaining only our political, informational,and organizational structures. We did this of our own volition following the American raid on my headquarters in Hammam al-Shatt.

Al-Yawm Al-Sabi': President Bourguiba has shown noticeable interest in the camps war...

Abu 'Ammar: He has taken a clear stand that was manifest in an honest approach during the Arab foreign ministers meetings.

Al-Yawm Al-Sabi': A committee emerged from the Arab foreign ministers meetings and has traveled to Lebanon and Syria. What has the committee achieved?

Abu 'Ammar: The committee proposed a ceasefire around the Palestinian camps. We accepted the proposal but suggested that it focus on Lebanese legitimacy rather than on the parties that have attacked the camps. This is because as a Palestinian revolution we deal with the legitimate Lebanese authorities. The agreement, which it is assumed was reached by the Arab foreign ministers according to an initiative by the Arab League secretary general, the committee chairman — Algeria's foreign minister — and the Palestinian side, calls for an Arab foreign ministers meeting on the sidelines of the Islamic foreign ministers meeting [preparing for the Fifth ICO Summit] to consider the progress made by the Arab committee. The meeting will take place on 25 January 1987 in Kuwait.

Al-Yawm Al-Sabi': In Lebanese and Arab circles, and even internationally, everyone is now saying that the PLO has regained its strength in Lebanon. Observers are curious whether the renewed vigor will translate itself into a political comeback in Lebanon.

Abu 'Ammar: If you mean the return of the political Palestinian leadership, this is not on our agenda.

Al-Yawm Al-Sabi': Can the PLO political presence in Lebanon take other forms?

Abu 'Ammar: We insist on reopening the PLO office in Beirut. Regrettably the PLO offices are now occupied by personnel of Syrian intelligence and the Amal movement. Other Palestinian institutions are provided for under an agreement concluded between us and the Lebanese Government before I left Lebanon in September 1982. These include a Palestinian research center, a Palestinian planning center, and health institutions. They have existed in Lebanon since the establishment of the PLO. Our 1982 agreement provided only for departure of the military leadership from Beirut.

Al-Yawm Al-Sabi': Do you think Lebanese public opinion now favors this kind of political presence by the PLO?

Abu 'Ammar: This presence is part of the Arab organization agreements. [Sentence as heard]

We have not heard any Lebanese official voice opposition to such a presence.

Al-Yawm Al-Sabi': And on the popular level?

Abu 'Ammar: Far from being opposed to this, a majority of the Lebanese now talk about a Palestinian comeback on a larger scale and insist that we do. But we said this is not on our minds now.

Al-Yawm Al-Sabi': Concerning the Palestinian camps, there are reports that the Shatila camp is virtually devastated and that its residents are living in shelters, with two of them vulnerable to shelling. Do you plan any move to forestall a massacre there?

Abu 'Ammar: The massacre began some time ago, and not just in Shatila but in the other camps as well. Four thousand people have been martyred or wounded, over 80,000 displaced, and four camps — al-Ma'shuq, Sull al-Bahr, Abu al-Aswad, and Al-Burghuliyah — obliterated. Four thousand families have been displaced from Sidon. Crimes against Palestinian families living in Lebanese districts were regrettably perpetrated by Syrian intelligence and the butcher Ghazi Kan'an. [Syrian military intelligence chief in Lebanon].

Al-Yawm Al-Sabi': The declared second party to the camps war is the Amal movement. How do you view the Amal movement's position after 3 months of fighting?

Abu 'Ammar: The operation is over and all cards have been uncovered. Amal is a mere facade. They thought that within a few days or a couple of weeks they could control the camps. Thus, the trick or big lie would deceive our Arab and Islamic nation into believing that what is happening against the camps is done by the Amal movement. However, the legendary steadfastness in the camps exposed all cards. Israel, the Amal movement, and Lahd's army formed a triangle in southern Lebanon. Moreover, Israeli aircraft did not stop raids and the Israeli officer Lubrani said: We carry out these military operations to support the Amal movement and prevent its collapse in southern Lebanon.

Regrettably Syrian tanks, together with special units, artillery, rockets, the Amal gangs, and the Lebanese Army's 1st and 6th Brigades, are at the same time attacking our camps in Beirut. This means you can do whatever you want if you are not ashamed. Therefore, the benefit, if any, of the pure Palestinian and Lebanese blood being shed there is the exposure of those Zionists who have long hidden behind the fig leaf. This leaf has dropped, and this is the plot which began when Henry Kissinger reached agreement with Syria in 1976. Now everything has been exposed. There is a U.S.-Israeli plot with the Syrian regime to share influence in Lebanon. This is the Syrian agreement with McFarlane: Israeli influence up to line 37 [as heard] and southward, and Syrian influence north of Al-Awwali River, with a red line around the Maronite canton, which is protected by the United States, the Vatican, and Europe.

I wish to divulge a secret about events currently taking place. A few days ago, the official in charge of the Middle East at the National Security Council arrived in Beirut. She then left for Damascus for secret talks with Syrian officials to revive the previous agreement signed with McFarlane and to emphasize Syrian commitment to this agreement and its continued implementation. In addition to what I mentioned, this agreement provides for sharing influence according on the following bases: dividing Lebanon into sectarian cantons, banning the PLO's return to Lebanon, and guaranteeing northern Israel's security against the threats of Palestinians and their allies. I would like to divulge another secret to you. The Syrian officials and the U.S. National Security Council's envoy have agreed to the following:

1. Syria would agree to specify the period of time during which the Syrian deterrent forces would stay in Lebanon. It was agreed this period would be 5 years,beginning now.

2. President Amin al-Jumayyil cannot agree to the presence of the deterrent forces for 5 years, because his term of office ends within 2 years. Therefore, Syria and the secret U.S. envoy agreed to support the renewal of Al-Jumayyil's presidency for another 5 years.

3. Syria abandoned its previous demand to supervise the training of the Lebanese Army. You may know that Syria's insistence on this point was one of the main reasons for the failure of the tripartite agreement that was prepared and signed under Syria's supervision.

Al-Yawm Al-Sabi': Preparations are under way to hold a Lebanese-Syrian summit...

Abu 'Ammar: This summit will be held at the end of the secret talks between Syria and the U.S. envoy in Damascus.

Al-Yawm Al-Sabi': You want to say these points will be the points of agreement at the summit meeting?

Abu 'Ammar: These points are proposed by the Americans, but the United States stresses two points to Syria: First, striking at the Palestinian revolution in Lebanon, and second, striking at the fundamentalist religious trend. Recently, the fundamentalist trend in Tripoli was attacked, and there are currently attempts to strike at the Palestinian revolution. The Americans are still asking Syria to strike at other Lebanese fundamentalists.

Al-Yawm Al-Sabi': A few days ago you met with Usamah al-Baz in Tunis. We would like to ask: Has Egypt given you what you expected from it after this long journey toward relations with it?

Abu 'Ammar: What is required is how I and Egypt can cooperate to get out of the whirlpool into which we stepped as an Arab nation after Camp David. As I said before, Camp David should not be the responsibility of only Egypt; it should also be an Arab responsibility and problem.

Al-Yawm Al-Sabi': Do the Palestinians living in Egypt face any problems? Has Egypt acted in this regard as you expected?

Abu 'Ammar: I have discussed these matters frankly with Dr Usamah al-Baz. We discussed the residents' and students' problems and other issues. I told him that, while brother President Amin al-Jumayyil was nobly renewing travel documents of Palestinians working in the Gulf, Palestinians carrying Egptian travel documents are facing numerous problems related to residence and travel. President Mubarak promised to resolve these matters, as well as problems related to students. However, I would like to say that the metter between us and Egypt is not the issue of travel documents or student problems. Our relations with Egypt are much deeper than that; it is a strategic relationship.

Al-Yawm Al-Sabi': A French hostage was released in Beirut some time ago. French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac extened thanks to the Palestinians for their role in this operation. Can you give us an idea about this role?

Abu 'Ammar: I wish you would spare me from giving an answer to this subject.

Al-Yawm Al-Sabi': Is it a continuing process, or is it a process that has been completed?

Abu 'Ammar: I wish you would also spare me from answering questions on this subject. It is better to be discrete about such issues because it is a sensitive matter and is not in the interest of the ultimate goal, releasing the hostages.

Al-Yawm Al-Sabi': Is there not a need for an Arab effort to refinance the joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee to resume its work?

Abu 'Ammar: The Arab stand on this issue is clear. It is in harmony with the Arab decision adopted at the Baghdad summit in 1972, which called for the formation of the joint committee before we reached agreement with Jordan and before our disagreement with Jordan. During that summit, the Arab nation drew up basic facts and rules for the joint committee to support steadfastness and not to improve the image of the occupation. We reject such an attempt. I would like to ask: How can agreement be reached on a 5-year development plan with the Israeli occupation authorities? Does this mean that the Israeli occupation authorities are given an open invitation to remain for 5 years? I just wanted to ask this question regardless of the answer. The Arab stands are clear. A short time ago, King Fahd ordered that Saudi payments should only be made to the joint committee. However, the Kuwaiti brothers decided to pay $18.5 million to support the universities in the occupied land and decided to deliver this assistance according to an agreement reached between me and His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad.

Al-Yawm Al-Sabi': The General Federation of Palestinian Journalists and Writers will shortly convene in Algiers. Can the convocation of this conference be regarded as a prelude to the convocation of the PNC?

Abu 'Ammar: We delayed the convocation of the PNC at the request of the PFLP and DFLP to give the dialogue more time. I believe that the reason for the delay was to give them time to escape from the increasing Syrian pressure on them. The Syrian pressure is not aimed against the Palestinian leadership or refugee camps but is essentially aimed against the Palestinian legitimate authority.

Al-Yawm Al-Sabi': But you have not yet answered the question. Is it a prelude to the convocation of the PNC?

Abu 'Ammar: The refugee camps incidents in Lebanon delayed the convocation of the PNC. There is mobilization in all the revolutionary organs to confront this battle and the massacre that is being planned against our people.

Al-Yawm Al-Sabi': If we compare the difficult phase that began toward the end of 1982 and the present phase, are you satisfied with the results?

Abu 'Ammar: I always say that the Palestinian factor is the most crucial. However, many people were not inclined to believe this. However, events have confirmed my view. We can say that the Palestinian people have imposed themselves on the Middle East map.

Al-Yawm Al-Sabi': Brother Abu 'Ammar, do you not see a new Palestinian generation emerging and imposing itself through the refugee camps war? What is your opinion of this generation and its role?

Abu 'Ammar: I am one of those who believe in the succession of generations. This is not all that I believe in, but I struggle for the sake of it. It is my duty to pave the way for these generations. When I see the new young generals who are magnificently confronting Israel and the Amal gangs, all I can think of is their future role. I left them in Beirut as cubs in 1982, and they are now confronting and leading in 1986. These young men are my responsibility, as are the children who wage the holy war of stone throwing in the occupied land. Fifty percent of the sons of the occupied land are from this rising generation.

Al-Yawm Al-Sabi': This generation has proven its struggle on the ground. How can this generation affirm its political existence?

Abu 'Ammar: We must open all doors before this generation. For example, a new decision was adopted at the military council appointing these new generals and commanders as members of the council. No one is immortal, and the banner must be handed over to the new generation. I received the banner from the old generation, and the moment I feel reassured, I will hand over the responsibility to the new generation. I am confident that these new generals will continue the march until they reach Jerusalem, and these heroes will hoist the flag above Jerusalem's walls, mosques, and churches. They think it is far, but we see it drawing nearer. We are truthful.

Mubarak Meets Officials During Stay in Kuwait

Meets ICO Secretary General

NC241153 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1145 GMT 24 Jan 87

[Text] Kuwait, 24 Jan (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak received ICO Secretary General Sharaf al-Din Pirzada at his residence at the Palace of Conferences this afternoon. Discussion during their meeting dealt with issues of common concern and the agenda of the Fifth ICO Summit.

The meeting was attended by Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and by Dr Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary at the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the president's adviser for political affairs.

Holds Talks With Kuwaiti Amir

LD241636 Kuwait KUNA in English 1513 GMT 24 Jan 87

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 24 (KUNA) — His Highness the Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad Saturday afternoon visited President

Husni Mubarak of Egypt at his suite at the conference center.

Minister of state for the Amiri Diwan Affairs Shaykh Khalid al-Ahmad and advisors at the amir's office 'Abd al-Rahman al-[name indistinct] and 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn, were present at the meeting.

President Mubarak arrived in Kuwait today heading his country's delegation for the fifth Islamic summit due to open Monday.

Meets Kuwaiti Prime Minister

LD241736 Kuwait KUNA in English 1626 GMT 24 Jan 87

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 24 (KUNA) — H.H. the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Sabah this evening visited Egyptian President Husni Mubarak at his residence at the conference center.

Shaykh Sa'd was accompanied by head of the Kuwaiti interest section bureau to Cairo 'Abd al-Razak al-Kandari and director of the crown prince office Abd al-Latif Al-Bahar.

Talks With Sudan's al-Mirghani

JN251233 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1035 GMT 25 Jan 87

[Text] Kuwait, 25 Jan (SUNA) — Ahmad 'Ali al-Mirghani, State Council chairman and head of Sudan's delegation to the Fifth ICO Summit, yesterday received at his residence in the conference palace, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, the Amir of Kuwait, who welcomed Al-Mirghani and wished him a pleasant stay during the summit meetings.

On the other hand, Egyptian President Husni Mubarak yesterday received at his residence here Ahmad Al-Mirghani in the presence of Muhammad al-Hasan 'Abdalah Yasin, member of the State Council. Yasin described the half-hour meeting as a courtesy meeting.

Meets Presidents of Senegal, Mali

NC251431 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1240 GMT 25 Jan 87

[Text] Caio, 25 Jan (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak met today with Malian President Moussa Traore and Senegalese President Abdou Diouf. They reviewed the situation in the Islamic world and urgent Islamic issues, particularly the Gulf war.

This was announced by Mamduh al-Baltaji, chairman of the Egyptian Information Authority, who said that Presidents Mubarak, Traore, and Diouf agreed that the Gulf war is a sensitive issue that poses a danger to the unity of the Islamic ranks. They agreed on the need for serious mediation, in a spirit of fraternity and solidarity, to halt this war the Muslim bloodshed.

Al-Baltaji said that important issues confronted by the Islamic conference, such as the Palestinian and Lebanese issues, the situation in Chad, and other issues on the Islamic summit's agenda were also discussed during the meetings.

Dr Mamduh al-Baltaji added that Presidents Moussa Traore and Abdou Diouf emphasized their African Muslim countries' solidarity with Egypt and their profound appreciation of its attendance at the conference.

They also emphasized that Egypt's role has always been an important factor in enriching joint Islamic action to eliminate differences, close ranks, and achieve solidarity among Muslim peoples.

The chairman of the Information Authority noted that the two meetings lasted more than 90 minutes.

Meets With Pakistani President

NC251713 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1443 GMT 25 Jan 87

[Text] Kuwait, 25 Jan (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak and Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq held talks at the Palace of Conferences in Kuwait today. During their meeting, they agreed on the need to ensure the success of the Islamic summit and to put an end to the current divisions within the Islamic world.

Mamduh al-Baltaji, chairman of the Egyptian Information Authority, made this announcement following the conclusion of the two leaders' talks. He said that the two men had discussed the situation in the Gulf, as well as the latest developments in the Palestinian issue.

They also reviewed the recent course of events along the border between Pakistan and India in light of the efforts undertaken by President Mubarak within the last few hours to ease the current tension between these two countries.

The Pakistani president expressed his profound gratitude for President Mubarak's efforts, which had resulted in easing the tension and restoring a state of normalcy. It should be recalled that President Mubarak sent messages to Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq.

During his meeting with the Pakstani leader, President Husni Mubarak affirmed Egypt's conviction that concerted efforts must be made to stop the shedding of Islamic blood in the Gulf war. In this regard, he noted that the Egyptian view is based on the very essence and majesty of Islam, as well as on the principles of fraternity, tolerance, amity, and reconciliation that our religion advocates.

President Mubarak warned that the Iraq-Iran war is very dangerous. He asserted that its destructive effects will be felt by the entire Islamic nation and not merely the Iranian and Iraqi people.

Dr al-Baltaji concluded his statement by noting that the talks between Mubarak and Ziaul Haq had taken place in a very friendly atmosphere.

Meets Al-Faysal, Comoros President

NC251824 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1624 GMT 25 Jan 87

[Text] Kuwait, 25 Jan (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, at his place of residence in the Palace of Conferences in Kuwait today.

Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, Egyptian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, also attended the meeting. They discussed the situation in the Arab and Islamic worlds and the issues on the Islamic summit agenda.

Later, President Husni Mubarak met with Ahmed Abdallah Abderemane, president of the Islamic Republic of the Comoros Islands. They discussed bilateral relations. President Abderemane expressed his gratitude to President Mubarak for Egyptian help in teaching the Arabic language and Islamic tenets to the Comoran people.

The two presidents reviewed the situation in the Islamic world on the eve of the ICO summit. They agreed that collective work is necessary to improve the lot of the Islamic nation.

President Husni Mubarak will resume his meetings with Arab leaders tonight and tomorrow morning as part of efforts to establish firm relations between Egypt and the states represented at the conference and to create the best conditions for the summit's success.

Meets Haq, Phones India's Gandhi

NC252152 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2025 GMT 25 Jan 87

[Text] Kuwait, 25 Jan (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak telephoned Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi tonight in his efforts to ease the recent tension on the border between India and Pakistan.

It is worth mentioning that President Mubarak had met earlier today with Pakistani President Ziaul Haq.

Meets Guinean President Conte

NC260016 Cairo MENA in English 2214 GMT 25 Jan 87

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 25 (MENA) — Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and Guinean President Lansana Conte exchanged during their meeting here tonight views on the most pressing problems facing the Islamic summit, mainly the Iraqi-Iranian war and the war in Chad, head of the Egyptian State Information Service Mamduh al-Biltaji said.

He pointed out that the meeting also dealt with relations between Egypt and Guinea and means to promote them.

Dr Al-Biltaji said that the two leaders agreed that the forthcoming visit of the Guinean minister of cooperation to Egypt will be suitable for giving a strong momentum to the Egyptian-Guinean cooperation in the economic and trade fields.

Holds Talks With Iraq's Ibrahim

NC260954 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0820 GMT 26 Jan 87

[Text] Kuwait, 26 Jan (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak this morning received in his place of residence in Kuwait Iraqi RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim. The Iraqi ambassador to Kuwait was also present.

Meets GCC Secretary General

NC261111 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1100 GMT 26 Jan 87

[Text] Kuwait, 26 Jan (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak received GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Bisharah today. Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister and a member of the delegation accompanying Mubarak, was also present at the meeting.

Meets 'Arafat, Chad's Habre

NC261221 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1207 GMT 26 Jan 87

[Text] Kuwait, 26 Jan (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak today received Chadian President Hissein Habre at the Palace of Conferences in Kuwait, where he is staying. Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, was present at the meeting.

Mubarak also received PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. Dr 'Abd al-Majid and Dr Usamah al-Baz, first secretary at the Foreign Ministry and the president's adviser for political affairs, also attended the meeting, as did Jamal al-Surani, PLO Executive Committee secretary; Hani al-Hasan, Fatah Central Committee member; and Sa'id Kamal, PLO Political Department deputy chief.

Meets UN Head, Others

NC261636 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1230 GMT 26 Jan 87

[Excerpts] President Husni Mubarak continued his meetings and discussions in Kuwait today with the heads of state and delegation leaders who have arrived to attend the special ICO summit. The opening session of the conference is scheduled to convene this evening.

President Mubarak met with the president of Guninea-Bissau this morning. This was followed by a meeting with Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, the YAR prime minister who heads his country's delegation to the conference. [passage omitted]

President Mubarak also met with Moroccan Prime Minister Azzedine Laraki, who is heading his country's delegation to the summit. Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, attended the meeting.

The president has also met with UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar and his accompanying delegation.

President Mubarak emphasized that Egypt wishes to assert its pan-Arab role in its capacity as a member of the Arab nation. In statements to the Kuwaiti newspaper *Al-Siyasah*, he said that everyone should keep in mind the fact that they are meeting at an Islamic summit. They must therefore rise above any absurdities or marginal differences that only obstruct the Islamic world's progress.

He added that the Islamic summit must obtain resolutions on all the issues that concern the Islamic world. Such resolutions will achieve a great deal, God willing, if they are imbued with Islamic amity.

The president affirmed that Egypt is concerned that the conference succeed in achieving its objectives. Another Egyptian concern is the security of the Gulf and the need to ensure that the effects of the Iraq-Iran war will not spread throughout the region.

The president expressed hope that the Islamic conference will bring good results for everyone. He asserted that Egypt extends goodwill and friendship to all.

Talks With Jordan's Husayn

NC261542 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1515 GMT 26 Jan 87

[Text] Kuwait, 26 Jan (MENA) — Egyptian President Husni Mubarak met with His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan in Kuwait this evening. The Jordanian King received Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, earlier today following the latter's meeting with President Husni Mubarak. The three leaders are in Kuwait to attend the Fifth ICO Summit.

Meets Omani Representative

LD262044 Kuwait KUNA in English 1428 GMT 26 Jan 87

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 26 (KUNA) — Personal representative of the Sultan of Oman Thuwayni ibn Shihab met here today with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak.

During the meeting Mubarak and ibn Shihab discussed bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest in addition to topics listed on the Fifth Islamic Summit's agenda.

Receives Bangladesh President

NC261740 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1645 GMT 26 Jan 87

[Text] Kuwait, 26 Jan (MENA) — Egyptian President Husni Mubarak received Bangladesh President Hussain Ershad at his residence at the Palace of Conferences in Kuwait this evening. The Bangladesh president is leading his country's delegation to the Fifth ICO Summit.

Meets Qatari Amir

JN271926 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0845 GMT 27 Jan 87

[Text] Kuwait, 27 Jan (WAKH) — The Amir of Qatar His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad al-Thani this morning received Egyptian President Husni Mubarak at his residence in the Palace of Conferences in Kuwait. During the meeting, attended by members of the Qatari delegation to the Islamic summit, they reviewed the topics on the agenda of the Fifth ICO Summit, being attended by the two leaders.

Received by Saudi King Fahd

LD271354 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1445 GMT 27 Jan 87

[Text] Kuwait, [no date as received] — The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Sa'ud, may God protect him, received His Excellency President Husni Mubarak at his residence [in Kuwait] this evening. [as heard]

2d Meeting With King Fahd

NC281731 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1710 GMT 28 Jan 87

[Text] Kuwait, 28 Jan (MENA) — King Fahd Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia paid a visit today to President Husni Mubarak at his residence in the Palace of Conferences in Kuwait. This is the second meeting between the two leaders, as President Mubarak visited King Fahd at his residence in the Palace of Conferences yesterday.

KUWAIT

AL-DUSTUR: Heir Apparent on Summit, Security

JN051037 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 5 Feb 87 pp 1, 18

[Text] Kuwait — His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Sabah, Kuwaiti heir apparent and prime minister, lauded Jordanian-Kuwaiti relations, which are continously developing, adding that they are deep, firm, distinguished, and genuine.

Receiving the *Al-Dustur* delegate at the ICO Summit, his highness greeted King Husayn's wise leadership and his prominent role in Islamic and Arab action. Replying to an *Al-Dustur* question on the ICO summit's moral impact on Kuwait, his highness said the success of the summit was a success for all Arabs and also a success for the minimum degree of Arab solidarity. He said the summit took place because of the efforts of all Arab leaders in addition to Kuwait's efforts. He said the positive Arab stands adopted during the summit played a major role in its success. His highness said: Our insistence on holding the ICO Summit on its fixed date stems from everyone's awareness of the challenges posed to the Islamic world. It also stems from everyone's call for concerted action and for proceeding on the same road to secure further power, steadfastness, and confrontation of these challenges by the Arab and Islamic nations.

He added: When Kuwait announced the date of the summit, some parties used several methods and means to foil it but, out of our feeling of responsibility, we insisted the summit be convened at the agreed upon time and venue. All Islamic leaders responded to his highness the amir's call and invitation; praise be to God.

On Iran's absence from the summit and the developments of the Gulf war, his highness said: Iran failed to attend the summit for known reasons. We exerted much effort to convince the Iranian leaders to attend so as to present their own viewpoint. But Iran did not attend because of special circumstances. The final communique and his highness the Kuwaiti Amir's speech stressed the call for exerting every effort to end the bloody war between Iraq and Iran. His highness, out of a feeling of responsibility, will exert every effort to stop the unjustified bloodshed.

On the GCC and the development of its work, His Highness Shaykh Sa'd said continued cooperation among the GCC's members will increase its solidity and will open more doors for cooperation with our brothers in all spheres. Regarding the recent discovery in Kuwait of a sabotage network, arms depots, and plans to undermine Kuwait's security, His Highness Shaykh Sa'd said the matter is no more than the presence of a number of deviants who will be arrested and brought to trial soon. Only the court has the power to decide what will be done. He said: We are eager to keep things in proportion and, therefore, everything related to this matter was frankly announced via television to prevent misinterpretations and to prevent anyone from exploiting rumors to harm our people's cohesion, and also to inform the Kuwaiti people of the ugly criminal plot aimed at innocent people by carrying out blind terrorist operations.

Replying to a question about reports of undisclosed terrorist networks, he asserted that the whole truth had been announced. He said: There is no security case or sabotage affair we might conceal and the matter is exactly as was announced by all news media. Replying to another question on the five members of the sabotage network who fled and whether they have been arrested, His Highness Shaykh Sa'd said: They have not been arrested yet but we are confident they will fall into the hands of justice soon. We expect all people will cooperate with us to serve justice.

Al-Sabah Meets Sudanese Armed Forces Official

LD041221 Kuwait KUNA in English 1034 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] Kuwait, Feb 4 (KUNA) — Kuwait's defense minister Shaykh Salim al-Sabah Wednesday received the visiting Sudanese chief of general staff General Abdul Azim Sidik Muhammad.

Military sources informed KUNA that the Sudanese officer held a separate discussion with defense minister and Chief of General Staff Major-General Mazyad al-Sani' on issues of military affairs between the two countries and means of strengthening them in different Armed Forces commands.

The Kuwaiti chief will today have a dinner banquet in honour of the Sudanese guest and the accompanying officials.

PDRY

Ahmad Denies Presence of Soviet Military Bases

EA041812 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] Brother Colonel Salih 'Ubayd Ahmad, candidate member of the Political Bureau and defense minister, stressed that the PDRY Armed Forces have overcome the negative effects of the 13 January bloody conspiracy. They are now even more prepared than before the conspiracy and have reached a high degree of permanent readiness that enables them to defend the homeland and the gains of the toilers' revolution.

In an interview with issue No 849 of the magazine *Al-Hadaf*, the brother defense minister said this was achieved not only because of the speed with which the Armed Forces dealt with the incidents but also because of the utmost importance attached to the Armed Forces by the YSP and the remarkable attention it pays to them. This is the solid basis of all the successes being achieved in new military construction in our country.

Asked about allegations in the imperialist and reactionary mass media that Democratic Yemen is a military base, the brother defense minister spoke about the numerous aggressive intentions of imperialist and reactionary forces. Their aim is to antagonize socialism and portray it is a source of war and a threat to security and stability.

He also explained that Democratic Yemen is a sovereign, democratic, nationalist state. We are advocates of peace, we stand with the forces of peace, progress, and socialism, headed by the Soviet

Union, he said. There are no Soviet military bases in our country. But the most important base is the base of friendship and cooperation founded on the principle of internationalist solidarity between our country and the Soviet Union. We are against military bases and against the imperialist presence in the territories, waters, and air space of the region. We are in the forefront of those who are committed to this responsible stand.

Al-Bid Discusses Cooperation With Soviet Envoy

EA042221 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1230 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, this morning received in his office Comrade Albert Rachkov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and Soviet ambassador in Aden.

During the meeting, they discussed bilateral cooperation and ways of developing and strengthening it to serve their common interests.

The brother secretary general appreciated the internationalist stand and honest support given to our country by the Soviet Union in various fields to build a new Yemeni society.

Receives Al-Qadhdhafi Message

EA042232 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1230 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, received in his office at noon yesterday Brother Muhammad Umar al-Farsi, secretary of the Libyan Arab People's Bureau in Aden. At the meeting Brother Muhammad 'Umar al-Farsi conveyed to the brother secretary general a verbal message from Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution, concerning the development of relations between the two fraternal countries and the coordination of joint efforts.

SAUDI ARABIA

Riyadh: Commitment to OPEC Agreement Reiterated

LD032126 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic
1800 GMT 3 Feb 87

[Text] Commenting on what was reported by *Reuter*, quoting the British *Economist* intelligence unit which said the Kingdom's commitments regarding barter agreements would mean excessive production and, consequently, another fall in prices in world markets; that the Kingdom constitutes the principal threat to the system of support prices adopted by OPEC, and the barter commitments would prevent Saudi oil production from remaining within the limitations of the OPEC resolutions; that an excess of 1 million b/d at least is inevitable; and so on, a responsible source at the Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources told SPA: The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is committed in letter and spirit to the OPEC agreement reached by the conference last December. The Kingdom will not abandon this commitment as long as others are committed to it throughout the period specified in the resolution. All barter deals to which the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is a party are counted as part of its quota allocated in the December agreement.

The source added: The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia cannot possibly violate an agreement that it made great efforts to achieve, and that resulted in everything that indicates its success to the equal benefit of producers and consumers.

The sources went on to say: With regard to recent reports on the existence of production in excess of what was decided by OPEC, the Kingdom believes the OPEC chairman should take the initiative of appointing a group of marketing experts to determine the facts and, consequently, specify which side exceeded its allocated production quota, then inform the organization's members of this.

The source concluded his statement saying: The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, while openly declaring this commitment, hopes all concerned parties will adhere to the agreement, which all signs indicate has been successful.

Reports on Economic Committee Meetings With U.S.

Aba al-Khayl Welcoming Speech

LD031517 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1050 GMT 3 Feb 87

["Speech by the Saudi Minister of Finance and National Economy" — SPA headline]

[Text] Your Excellency Mr Secretary, distinguished guests, friends:

It gives me pleasure to welcome you and your colleagues to the 10th annual session of the Saudi-U.S. Joint Committee for Economic and Technical Cooperation. Thank you for coming to Riyadh to attend these meetings despite your many engagements, especially during this period. I would also like to thank all those present from the American side — whether government officials or from the private sector — for participating in these meetings.

This session begins the second decade of economic and technical cooperation within the framework of the Joint Committee between our two countries after a decade of fruitful joint action. We in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia are very grateful for the excellent contribution made by the Joint Committee to the comprehensive development of our country. Our country has greatly benefitted from the American experts who have given their modern technical expertise with an excellent spirit of cooperation. Thousands of citizens have benefitted from the training opportunities they obtained by working with their American colleagues or by joining training programs in the United States.

In the past decade more than 780 American experts have contributed to this success realized by the Joint Committee; about 500 of them have worked for long periods while the remainder have worked on contract for short periods. At present there are 147 American experts covering 23 programs of the Joint Committee; 131 of these experts are engaged for long periods and 16 have short contracts. More than 9,000 Saudis have received training in various fields of technical knowledge over the past years, and there are 3,000 Saudi citizens currently receiving training.

On behalf of the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, I would like to express my thanks to every single expert for the services they have rendered during their stay here with us which shall not be forgotten.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is moving to another stage of development which requires the utmost importance be devoted to the developed transfer of technology and training. Thus, today, we need highly qualified human expertise to meet the needs of our economic growth. This is represented in determining and offering investment opportunities and in building up strong organizational structures for production and marketing as well as in executing the tasks of administrating and operating the utilities with more competence.

We look to the Joint Committee as the main source of cooperation in meeting our increasing economic needs in training and the transfer of technology, and in this context we stress the need to define the work programs of the American experts who work under the Joint Committee. For this purpose, we will form a work team composed of high ranking officials in the Saudi Government to help the Joint Committee achieve these aims. I am confident we will meet with a full response from your side which has brought success in the past decade.

Your Excellency Mr Secretary: In this spirit I would also like to draw your attention to developments and trends that have appeared recently in our trade relations and which need special care. The Kingdom's import data for 1986 show that the United States has retreated to second position among the states exporting to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia: total Saudi imports from the United States reached 12.1 billion riyals or $3.2 billion, a decrease of 16 percent compared with 1985. The number of U.S. investments in the Kingdom also decreased. In the Kingdom there are 233 special joint projects with a total capital of about 4.5 billion riyals or $1.4 billion dollars, whereas the number of joint projects 2 years ago was 271.

Although it is clear that part of this retreat is due to the completion of the basic supplies, our economy is continuing to develop. The industrial base in our country is growing and the possibilities for expansion in a number of sectors appear brilliant and attractive, as the population growth in the Kingdom is regarded as one of the fastest growing in the world. Also, the purchasing power of the individual in the Kingdom is among the highest in the world. The Saudi market is still far from saturation and there are many open opportunities awaiting discovery and exploitation.

Therefore I propose to you, Your Excellency Mr Secretary, that we should work together, through the Joint Committee, to strengthen economic relations between the two countries through joint action to encourage the setting up of more joint ventures in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia by businessmen and investors from both countries.

This can be achieved by setting up a team of experts qualified in the development and growth of markets who shall be brought from the United States within the framework of the Joint Committee, so they can work with their Saudi counterparts on a full time basis to define and study the investment possibilities in the industrial production and services sectors, and submit the conclusion of their studies and analyses to qualified businessmen in both countries so they can benefit from such studies and analyses when beginning new joint ventures.

In the past decade the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has invested a huge sums of money in the basic petrochemical industries and the petroleum by-products industries. This is a fundamental step in realizing our aim of economic diversification in our country. The major part of such investment has been accomplished by U.S. companies. Therefore they are regarded as complementary to the series of investments that began with the discovery of oil and the development of the oil industry in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia by U.S. companies more than 50 years ago. The participation of some U.S. companies has continued since then and until the establishment of modern petrochemical and petroleum industries in the Kingdom. Therefore, it is necessary that in both our countries such investments — old and new — should be seen within a single framework: the framework of special relations linking our two countries. This makes us hope that the United States will encourage the unobstructed arrival of these products in U.S. markets.

Your excellency, to add more strength to the bases of existing economic cooperation between our two countries, we welcome the current negotiations between the GCC countries including the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and the United States with the aim of concluding a trade and investment agreement, because we believe the conclusion of such an agreement will encourage the creation of an international investment environment. Since the GCC countries are working toward the establishment of an integrated economic entity with no barriers or restrictions, an agreement between the United States and our group would benefit both sides. Because the United States and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia are committed to the principle of free economy, their mutual conviction is that such a multilateral trade and investment agreement would ensure a favorable and stable environment enabling them to invest with confidence. At the same time, we in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia share with you a commitment to the establishment of a favorable international economic environment where market forces are the determining factors in the flow of investments and which consequently lead to higher levels of world production with more efficiency and effectiveness.

We believe that continuing negotiations between the GCC and the United States are an important first step in that direction.

In conclusion, I would like to tell you, your excellency, that there are still greater attainable possibilities for our mutual cooperation. And if the present decade is fraught with challenges and difficulties to international trade, the special economic relations between our two countries will enable us to work together to achieve the maximum of our common interests. And this is what the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is determined to do. Thank you for your attention and I wish you and your colleagues an enjoyable and useful stay.

10th Session Ends

LD041921 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1530 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] Riyadh, 4 Feb (SPA) — The Saudi-American Joint Committee for Economic and Technical Cooperation ended its 10th session this evening under the chairmanship of His Excellency the Minister of Finance and National Economy Muhammad Abu al-Khayl, and his excellency the American secretary of the treasury, at the Palace of Conferences in Riyadh.

The coordinator of the Saudi-American committee, Dr Khalid al-Mas'ud, spoke at the end of the committee meetings and pointed out that the contacts made during the meetings of the Saudi-American Joint Committee for Economic and Technical Cooperation were an opportunity to review the recommendations reached by the committee in its ninth session. In his speech, he reviewed what was done during the current meeting. He pointed out that the problems that face the projects and the steps adopted to implement the recommendations made in the previous session were discussed.

He also said that the discussions were friendly, and the problems and solutions were put forward in a serious and sincere manner. Dr Khalid al-Mas'ud dealt with the recommendations adopted by the conferees during this meeting and expressed the hope they would be approved by the committee.

Following is the text of Dr Khalid al-Mas'ud's speech:

Excellency chairman, excellency co-chairman: my colleagues took advantage yesterday and since the end of our general meeting to hold bilateral discussions with officials involved in the joint committee's projects and to assess the progress made in resolving the difficulties they face in achieving their intended objectives for these projects as assessed in the ninth session. These meetings were an opportunity to review how many of the recommendations made during that session were realized.

This morning the delegation had a general session during which the problems faced by the projects and the measures taken to implement the recommendations of the previous session were discussed. Our discussions were aimiable but debate of the problems and solutions was serious and frank.

Dr 'Abd al-Wahab al-'Attar submitted the Saudi delegation's paper and James Shaver submitted the U.S. delegation's paper and their ideas for achieving a qualitative leap in the field of training and transfer of technology. The participants came up with the following recommendations:

1. The joint committee stresses that the transfer of technology and the development of work forces are its two main tasks. To divert the greatest attention to these two tasks, the committee will concentrate its efforts on these two objectives in response to the joint requirements for all projects and to ensure that these needs receive the higher administration's support regarding budget allocations, required work force, and operational requirements.

2. The annual financial and administrative plan of the joint committee will be an active instrument to assess and guide every project and to ensure the possibility of achieving the transfer of technology and training objectives. The revision of every project will be completed to make use of the opportunity to introduce changes to the financial and administrative plan for fiscal year 1988.

3. The joint committee regards the papers submitted by his excellency Dr 'Abd al-Wahab 'Abd al-Salam al-'Attar on the Saudi side and by James Shaver on the U.S. side as part of this session's officials documents.

The annual report on the committee's work was discussed and approved, and we are submitting it to you, recommending its approval.

This session's joint statement, which summarizes the results of discussions and stresses the two sides' commitment to the importance of transferring technology through continuing training, has been formulated, and we are submitting it to you, recommending its approval.

Joint Statement Issued

LD042320 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1730 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Excerpts] Riyadh, 4 Feb (SPA) — The Joint Saudi-U.S. Committee on Economic and Technical Cooperation expressed pleasure and happiness at the substantial progress made during its meetings toward the development of human resources, and confirmed the need to increase the efforts made at this important stage in the Kingdom's development.

In the final statement issued by the committee this evening, both sides approved a number of recommendations for the consolidation of the Joint Committee's role in the preparation and formulation of the practical foundations for the development of human resources to assist the Kingdom in tackling urgent national priorities. [passage omitted]

Here is the text of the final statement:

The Joint Saudi-U.S. Committee on Economic Cooperation held its 10th meeting in Riyadh 3-4 February 1987.

The meeting was chaired by his excelency Saudi Minister of Finance and National Economy Shaykh Muhammad Aba al-Khayl and his Excellency U.S. Treasury Secretary James A. Baker III.

During the 10th session of the Joint Committee, both sides concentrated on issues pertaining to the development of human resources, joint ventures, and investment and commercial activity. The initiatives and actions carried out since the ninth session were reviewed, and the participants approved a number of recommendations for the consolidation of the Joint Committee's role in the preparation and formulation of the practical foundations for the development of human resources, to assist the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in tacking urgent national priorities.

The delegations agreed that the Joint Committee has made substantial progress in the development of human resources, but they confirmed the need to increase the efforts being exerted at this important stage in the development of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has made huge investments in the development of its infrastructure, and the Joint Committee is represented in the transfer of knowledge and skills to Saudi managers and a broad sector of technicians and workers, which would enable them to assume full responsibility for the operation and maintenance of the infrastructure, and also in relation to the development and the provision of most competent government services to the Saudi citizens.

The two delegations agreed that the Joint Committee is working in this direction, and this matter is to be given top priority. Also, both sides will concentrate on finding the means capable of encouraging the creation of joint companies by the private sector in the two countries, to invest in the Kingdom through the provision of studies and data, and allowing businessmen in the two countries to look to them for the purpose of guiding them to good areas and opportunities for investment in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

While the 10th session of the Joint Committee was taking place, Saudi and U.S. businessmen held consultations on issues regarding the interests of the private sector in the two countries. The participants in the consultation joined the official delegations in the enlarged opening and closing sessions of the Joint Committee. The discussions that took place during the businessmen's dialogue dealt essentially with joint ventures and investment. They also included reports on the economic consultations underway between the United States and the GCC and matters related to taxation systems in the light of the new tax legislation in the United States, trade relations, and the (?forthcoming) Saudi industrialization program.

The businessmen agreed to find the means to promote cooperation between the private sectors in the two countries to help the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia meet its human resource needs. The participants also agreed to look into the means to achieve this goal under the supervision of the Joint Committee.

The two delegations emphasized the important contribution made by the Joint Saudi-U.S. committee to the consolidation of the links between the two countries and expressed their appreciation to all Saudi and U.S. ministries for their commitment and dedication.

The Joint Committee approved the final draft of its annual report which will be published soon in Arabic and English.

The two participating chairmen agreed to hold the next Joint Committee meeting in Washington in 1988. [passage omitted]

News Conference Held

LD042140 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1420 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] Riyadh, 4 Feb (SPA) — His Excellency Muhammad Aba al-Khayl, minister of finance and national economy, and U.S. Treasury Secretary James Baker held a news conference this evening following the end of the 10th meeting of the Saudi-U.S. Joint Committee, during which they talked about the result of the committee's meetings and economic cooperation between the two countries in addition to a number of other topics of mutual interest.

Speaking at the start of the conference, His Excellency Minister of Finance and National Economy Aba al-Khayl expressed his joy and happiness at the presence of his excellency the U.S. treasury secretary in the Kingdom and at his major participation in the Joint Committee meetings. His excellency described the committee's meetings as successful and good.

His excellency the U.S. treasury secretary expressed his gratitude and appreciation for the good welcome and the hospitality he and the members of the U.S. side received at the committee's meetings. He said in a similar speech: "I believe that the committee, during its 10th session, has concentrated on what can be achieved."

He also expressed his confidence that the work achieved during the meetings of this session will reinforce cooperation in the economic and commercial spheres between the Kingdom and the United States.

At the end of his speech he welcomed his country's hosting of the committee's meetings at its next session in Washington.

At the end of the news conference his excellency the minister of finance and national economy, Muhammad Aba al-Khayl, delivered a speech in which he thanked James Baker, members of the delegation, and U.S. businessmen and officials for visiting the Kingdom...[SPA elipses] His excellency stressed the importance of the 10th session of the Joint Saudi-U.S. Committee, which concluded its proceedings earlier today, and praised the success achieved in previous years in the field of technical cooperation between the Kingdom and the United States in the framework of the Joint Committee.

His excellency added: We are happy about the understanding reached during this session that focus will be on transfer of technology and encouragement of the establishing of joint companies between U.S. firms and Saudi businessmen in the coming years. His excellency Aba al-Khayl said the Saudi economy had reached a stage that would enable it to welcome the establishment of these joint companies.

YAR

Salih Addresses 'First Commando Brigade'

JN041416 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, today visited the camp of the first commando brigade. He was received on arrival by the camp commander, officers, and Brother Nu'man al-Da'is, governor of Khawlan County.

The brother president and leader addressed the officers, noncommissioned officers, and soldiers of the camp on this occasion. He expressed happiness for having the opportunity to meet them and acquaint himself with their situation and conditions. He praised the role played by the Armed Forces and the Security Forces in bolstering security and stability, protecting the gains of the people, and preserving the accomplishments of the revolution. He expressed satisfaction with the advanced quantitative and qualitative development witnessed by our Armed Forces and Security Forces. The president emphasized that these Forces will remain the safety valve safeguarding our development and preserving the accomplishments and gains achieved by our people under the leadership of the eternal 26 September revolution.

Concluding his speech, the brother president instructed the officials of competent authorities to carry out a number of service projects in Khawlan County.

During this visit, the brother president was accompanied by Brother Lieutenant Colonel 'Abdallah al-Bashiri, chief of staff and member of the Standing Committee; and a number of officers of the Armed Forces.

Mubarak Calls For Assembly Dissolution; Decree

NC041746 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1737 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] Cairo, 4 Feb (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has issued a republican decree calling on voters to hold a referendum on the dissolution of the People's Assembly. The president's decree stipulates the referendum should take place on Thursday, 12 February. The decree also stipulates all sessions of the People's Assembly should cease as of the date of the issuance of this decree.

The following is the text of Republican Decree No 31 of the year 1987, calling on voters to hold a referendum on the dissolution of the People's Assembly:

After perusing the Constitution, Law No 72 of 1956 regulating the exercise of political freedoms and the laws amending it, and Law No 38 of 1972 on the People's Assembly and the laws amending it, the president of the Republic decrees:

Article one: Voters registered in election lists in accordance with provisions of Law No 72 or 1956 are called upon to meet at the premises of the referendum's subcommitttees to vote on the dissolution of the People's Assembly.

Article two: The referendum referred to in Article One shall take place on 12 February 1987.

Article three: The sessions of the People's Assembly shall be suspended as of the date of the issuance of this decree.

Article four: This decree shall be published in the *Official Gazette* and shall be effective from the date of its publication.

Signed: Muhammad Husni Mubarak

Issued by the Presidential Office on 5 Jumada Al-Akhar 1407 Hegira, corresponding to 4 February 1987.

Mubarak Briefs News Media

NC041839 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1808 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] Cairo, 4 Feb (MENA) — In a statement to reporters at Al-'Urubah Palace this evening, President Husni Mubarak said: In the name of God, the merciful and compassionate. We all know a law pertaining to the election of the people's representatives in the People's Assembly was issued in late December last year. The old law was primarily based on party lists. When the new law was issued to provide broader participation in the elections, it combined party lists and individual candidates. After this law was promulgated we realized it would be for the sake of political convenience politically more appropriate to propose to the people the People's Assembly be dissolved in order to apply the new law. This is because the new law is more advantageous to the people's representatives, combining as it does party lists and individual candidates. Therefore, I have issued a decree inviting voters to participate in a referendum on the dissolution of the People's Assembly. This decree will be published in the newspapers tomorrow. God willing, the referendum will be held on 12 February.

Opposition Lauds Decision

NC041928 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1910 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] Cairo, 4 Feb (MENA) — Leaders of the opposition parties in Egypt have welcomed President Muhammad Husni Mubarak's decision to hold a referendum on the dissolution of the People's Assembly.

Liberals Party leader Mustafa Kamil Murad described President Mubarak's decision as a constitutional step confirming the president's eagerness to maintain Egypt's constitutional system. Murad went on to say President Mubarak is anxious to begin his second presidential term with an elected People's Assembly, in accordance with constitutional law. He noted this is a constructive step on the path of democracy.

In conclusion, Murad expressed the hope this action would be followed by others amending the Constitution and revoking freedom-restricting laws issued at the end of late President Anwar al-Sadat's era.

Socialist Labor Party leader Ibrahim Shukri described President Husni Mubarak's decision as wise, saying it could lead to a new era if followed by elections based not on lists but on individual constituencies.

MPUG leader Khalid Muhyi al-Din said the president's decision to hold a referendum on the dissolution of the People's Assembly was only natural, because it has been proven the former elections law was unconstitutional. Muhyi al-Din proposed the current elections law be changed through a general national understanding and a genuinely constitutional law for elections be enacted. Fu'ad Siraj al-Din, leader of the Neo-Wafd Party, has also voiced full support for President Mubarak's decision.

Iraq To Receive SAM Batteries, Aircraft

PM041041 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 28 Jan-3 Feb 87 pp 17-18

[Ayman al-Sayyad dispatch: "Egyptian Experts in 'War of Bulges' and Egyptian Warplanes for Iraq"]

[Excerpt] The Egyptian leadership agrees on the strategic importance of the current conflict in the Gulf region in relation to Egypt's security and political interests. This view of the war plays a major part in determining Egypt's stand vis-a-vis Iraq. Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, Egyptian deputy prime minister and minister of defense, expressed this stand in a statement: "The Gulf war affects Egyptian national security, and any serious developments would affect Egyptian personnel working in the Arab region as well as the transportation of oil through the Suez Canal. A change in the political situation in the region would affect Egypt. Therefore an expansion of the Gulf war would certainly affect our national security."

An Iraqi military delegation arrived in Cairo last week as the Gulf fighting escalated. It was described as a high-level delegation and its visit was shrouded in secrecy, although the fact of Egyptian-Iraqi military cooperation is no longer a secret.

Information received by *Al-Majallah* confirmed the Iraqi delegation arrived in Cairo aboard a civilian plane Friday 16 January, and it included four major generals representing the main branches of the Iraqi Army on an urgent mission to discuss what Egypt can provide for Iraq in the military field in light of recent developments at the front.

At an urgent meeting between the Iraqi delegation and the Egyptian side and attended by senior commanders of the Armed Forces, it was agreed Iraq would immediately obtain the following:

—Four advanced SAM-6 batteries (modified by Egyptian ordnance factories);

—12 Tucano aircraft produced by Egypt in conjunction with Brazil;

—10 Gazelle helicopters for the transportation of equipment;

—Two sets of Hawkeye antiaircraft missile batteries; and

—A number of tanks and armored vehicles.

The Egyptians also agreed to accept 50 students from the Iraqi Air Academy to train on Tucanos and Gazelles. It was agreed the first group of students would arrive Saturday, 24 January.

Al-Majallah's information indicates the Iraqi list also included two other requests to which Egypt did not agree: The first concerned Napalm bombs and the second the dispatch of Egyptian naval units to close the mouth of the Gulf to block supplies to Iran. Iraq's request envisaged units of the Iraqi Navy and other neighboring states participating with the Egyptian Navy in the manner employed in Bab el Mandeb Strait in 1973.

It was also agreed at the meeting Iraq should benefit from the experiences of the October war, especially the liquidation of the famous "Deversoir Bulge." Therefore it was agreed a number of Egyptian military experts will visit the Iraqi front to inspect the battlefield and give Iraqi field commanders the benefit of their experience. The Egyptian military experts were chosen from among those who commanded the 1973 war operations and the famous tank battles in Sinai, as well as those who participated in the liberation of Al-Qantarah Sharq and the liquidation of the Israeli bulge west of the canal, and the military engineers who supervised the building of the earthwork barrier before the Ramadan war.

In addition to those experts, Cairo is currently studying the possibility of highly trained Egyptian elements participating in the two areas of surveillance and the planning of war operations "provided this takes place away from the actual battlefield." The Egyptian officials are also studying an Iraqi request to open special production lines in Egyptian ordnance factories for the production of spare parts for the arms supplied to Iraq by Britain, West Germany, France, and Italy.

Apart from the list presented to Cairo by the Iraqi military delegation, *Al-Majallah* has learned Baghdad asked Cairo to make every possible effort to prevent Israel from supplying Iran with spare parts or arms. Iraq also asked Egypt to exploit its special relations with Austria and China to prevent them from supplying arms to Iran. It is known Austria provides Iran with field guns, mortars, and ammunition, and China provides it with shells, computers, and electronic equipment for antiaircraft defense. In fact, as a part of Egypt's diplomatic efforts in support of Iraq, President Mubarak asked Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez, who was on a visit to Cairo a few days ago, to stop supplying Iran with bombs.

Iran has actually obtained approximately 300,000 Spanish bombs. It is expected, as promised by Gonzalez, Madrid will cancel a new and bigger deal covering deliveries to Tehran within the next 3 months. [passage omitted]

'Abd al-Majid, PNC's Kamal Discuss ICO Summit

NC041331 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met with PNC membert Sa'id Kamal today. They discussed the outcome of the ICO summit in Kuwait, particularly regarding Arab and Islamic issues. They also discussed the efforts Egypt is making in support of the Palestinian cause and in enhancing Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue to stimulate the moves to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

Comparison of Mubarak's Police Day Address

Cairo *Al-Ahram* in Arabic in its 2 February 1987 issue carries on pages 3, 5, and 6 the text of Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's police day speech. The Cairo *Al-Ahram* version has been compared with the Cairo Domestic version, published in the 3 February Middle East & Africa *Daily Report*, page D 1, revealing the following variations:

Page D5, paragraph seven, lines nine in *Al-Ahram* reads: hands with him. I will shake hands with him. What would be (providing indistinct words)

Paragragh eight, line one in *Al-Ahram* reads: the first time — someone came to me and said that President al-Asad is (providing words, clearing queried words)

Paragraph nine, line four in *Al-Ahram* reads: no objection to exchanging letters with him. This envoy, whose (adding words, clearing queried words)

Page D6, paragragh three, line sixteen in *Al-Ahram* reads: The man met with Al-Asad and asked him (clearing queried name)

Paragragh seven, line thirteen in *Al-Ahram* reads: dirty words. Strange! Some people have become desperate. They were desperate (clearing queried words)

Paragragh eight, line five in *Al-Ahram* reads: to change for this or that reason and they (providing indistinct words)

Page D7, paragraph four, line nine in *Al-Ahram* reads: about to begin. I told him: Please go in. He said: I (adding words, deleting editorial notation)

Paragragh five, last line in *Al-Ahram* reads:...an Egyptian. [applause]

[New graf] I may quarrel with someone here. However, I would not want an outsider to direct abuse at him, to speak about him, or to criticize him on the pretext (rewording, providing indistinct words)

Page D8, paragragh eleven, line five in *Al-Ahram* reads: The OAU meets on time no matter how (providing indistinct words)

Communique No 2,556 Details 3-4 Feb Fighting

JN041717 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Communique No 2,556 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 4 February 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our brave Armed Forces have continued their combat activities, inflicting further losses on our country's enemies who harbor grudges against our people and development. The following is a roundup of activities for last night and today:

1. Enemy groups tried to approach our forward positions in the heroic III Army Corps sector. Our brave units confronted them and forced them to flee. Our brave artillery men inflicted more losses on the enemy through their continuous shelling.

2. The heroic VII Army Corps soldiers continued their strong attacks on enemy positions, achieving the following: the destruction of 35 infantry positions and the killing of their occupants; the destruction of 3 vehicles loaded with personnel; the destruction of 5 mortar emplacements and the killing of a number of enemy personnel; the destruction of 8 ammunition dumps; the destruction of 3 observation posts and the killing of their crews; the destruction of a machinegun emplacement; and the killing of 3 enemy soldiers.

3. In the I Army Corps northern sector, five enemy soldiers were killed and a shelter was destroyed.

4. The vile Khomeyniites shelled residential areas in Basra with long-range artillery. As a result, two civilians were martyred. Mercy and forgiveness to our martyrs.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 4 February 1987

Iranian Cities Raided

JN042113 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 2100 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Iraqi military spokesman's statement dated 4 February 1987]

[Text] In continuation of inflicting punishment on the scoundrel Khomeyniites by destroying their dens on their heads as a result of their shelling our cities and their attacks on our land, our heroic Air Force carried out destructive raids on the cities of Qom, Tabriz, and Esfahan at 2240 [1940 GMT] today. After violently bombing their targets, our planes returned to the homeland safely and in God's protection.

[Dated] 4 Febuary 1987

'Comprehensive' Peace Condition for Ending War

JN050817 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0750 GMT 5 Feb 87

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Feb (INA) — An official Iraqi newspaper has affirmed that Iraq will only stop pounding the dens of the Iranian rulers on one condition; specifically, a comprehensive and complete peace. In an editorial today entitled "We Will Not Stop", *Al-Jumhuriyah* says the Iranian rulers alone bear the responsibility for what is afflicting them today because they were the ones who ignited the war and who insist on its continuation. *Al-Jumhuriyah* adds: If there is such a thing as the war of cities as they call it, then they are the ones who started it and continue with it, violating laws and norms. The war cannot be divided just as peace cannot be divided. There is no such thing as a war of borders, a war of cities, or a war of tankers. There is only one war; a comprehensive war. It is either a war or not. Iraq prefers peace, but because the Khomeyniites do not want it then they must remain silent and bear all the consequences of the war.

Hammadi Asks Arab Parliaments To Condemn Iran

JN041555 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1440 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] Baghdad, 4 Feb (INA) — Dr Sa'dun Hammadi, RCC member and Iraqi National Assembly speaker, has urged Arab parliamentarians and their union to condemn the continued Iranian aggression against Iraq as well as to work seriously to isolate the Iranian regime in the international community and in parliamentary conferences in which it participates.

In messages to the heads of Arab parliaments and to the Arab Parliamentary Union secretary general, Dr Hammadi said the Iranian rulers embarked on their last criminal aggression before the convocation of the Fifth ICO Summit in Kuwait to achieve military and political gains so as to impose their illegitimate conditions on our people and struggling country.

Dr Hammadi added the Iranian aggressors have faced a solid wall of Iraqis who believe in their just cause and who are prepared to sacrifice what they cherish for the homeland to defend its sovereignty and Arab honor from the Khoemyniites, the Zionist agents,and imperialist servants. The U.S. arms deal has exposed the falsehood of their claims and slogans and their expansionist ambitions toward Iraq and the Arab nation.

At the end of the message, the Iraqi National Assembly speaker noted that Iraq has not spared any effort to stop the imposed war and to achieve security and stability in our strategic region so that regional peoples will proceed with the march of construction and awakening and reinforce peace in the world.

Romanian Deputy Prime Minister Arrives on Visit

Confers With Al-'Uraybi

JN031614 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1440 GMT 3 Feb 87

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Feb (IN) — Acting Iraqi Light Industries Minister Qasim Ahmad al-'Uraybi met with Romanian Deputy Prime Minister Ion C. Petre and the accompanying delegation here today. They discussed joint industrial relations and ways to reinforce them in the service of the Iraqi and Romanian peoples' interests.

Talks With Irrigation Minister

JN041059 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1025 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] Baghdad, 4 Feb (INA) — Iraqi Irrigation Minister 'Abd al-Wahhab Mahmud met with Romanian Deputy Prime Minister Ion C. Petre here today. The two sides discussed bilateral cooperation and ways to promote it in the interest of the two countries' peoples.

Cooperation Minutes Signed

JN042105 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 2000 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] Iraq and Romania this evening signed the joint minutes of the meetings of the ninth session of the Iraqi-Romanian committee for economic, scientific, and technical cooperation and trade between the two friendly countries. RCC member and Trade Minister Hasan 'Ali signed the minutes on the Iraqi side and Romanian Deputy Premier Ion C. Petre signed on the Romanian side.

On this occasion, Hasan 'Ali and Ion C. Petre expressed satisfaction with what was achieved in developing and activating economic cooperation and trade. They noted that the results of the committee's ninth session have opened wide horizons for developing and expanding trade and economic and technical cooperation.

The minutes organize cooperation steps in agricultural, industrial, irrigation, transportation, technical, financial, and trade areas for 1987.

Oil Reserves Affirmed as Second Largest

JN050953 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0810 GMT 5 Feb 87

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Feb (INA) — A senior Iraqi oil official has affirmed that the confirmed Iraqi oil reserves have reached 70 billion barrels in addition to 40 billion barrels semi-confirmed reserves. In a statement to *Al-Jumhuriyah*, Iraqi Oil Minister Qasim Ahmad al-'Uraybi said that Iraq has become the second largest country after Saudi Arabia with regard to oil reserves. He explained that extensive seismic surveys carried out by the competent technical departments at the ministry last year included the border areas and covered 84,990 square km and revealed a large increase in Iraq's oil reserves.

On the ministry's achievements in the field of oil drilling, the Iraqi minister said that 609 new wells have been drilled and that an overall 496,807 meters have been drilled which is several times more than what the nationalized companies had achieved in this regard. He explained that very advanced technical techniques were used in the drilling, foremost of which is the slanting drilling process and which was used in the Middle East for the first time. This process requires the drilling of several wells from a single tower and in various directions.

Al-'Uraybi touched on Iraq's oil production which has shown a marked increase as a result of newly executed exportation projects such as the Iraqi-Turkish pipeline and the Iraqi-Saudi line. He said that work is underway to increase the Iraqi-Turkish pipeline capacity to 1.5 million barrels per day [bpd] and that work on this stage is expected to be completed by the middle of this year. He indicated that the second phase of the Iraqi pipeline across Saudi Arabia, which began pumping in the first phase at the end of 1985, will be completed by the end of 1988 to increase its capacity to 1.6 million bpd. He said that the implementation of these projects will increase Iraq's oil exportation capacity to 3.1 million bpd through the Iraqi-Turkish and Iraqi-Saudi pipelines and give Iraq greater flexibility in the marketing operations.

Hizballah Declares 'Full Alert' in West Beirut

NC042105 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 2045 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] Hizballah declared a full alert among its gunmen in West Beirut tonight. It erected barricades, especially in the Al-Bastah area, as a precaution against any possible operation.

Sources in the port of Haifa announced tonight that they expect the U.S. aircraft carrier *John F. Kennedy* to arrive at the port on Friday. The sources linked the sudden arrival of the aircraft carrier to the escalation in the U.S. hostage crisis in Lebanon.

DPA: Shi'ite Leader Justifies Kidnappings

LD041320 Hamburg DPA in German 1139 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] Beirut [no date as received] (DPA) — Pro-Iranian Lebanese Shi'ite leader Husayn al-Musawi (41) has justified and approved the kidnapping of Germans Rudolf Cordes and Alfred Schmidt. In an interview with DPA on Tuesday evening at his home in the Al-Biqa' Valley, Al-Musawi said the step was taken to persuade the Federal Government to exchange the Lebanese Muhammad 'Ali Hamadah, who was arrested in Frankfurt on 13 January, for the two Germans. The Shi'ite leader is seen as a mainstay of the fundamentalist movement in Lebanon.

Al-Musawi, a former religion and Arabic teacher, described the kidnapping as "necessary," although the two Germans were "innocent people." By way of explanation he said: "Muhammad 'Ali Hamadah is a fighter. The FRG Government wants to extradite him to the Americans. His parents, friends, and family in and outside Beirut have the right to stop that from happening." The aim is to exert pressure on those who dared to adopt such an attitude toward the Muslims, handing one of them over to the Americans, Al-Musawi added.

Asked how Hamadah's friends and family in the fundamentalist movement could reconcile the kidnapping of the two men with Muslim principles — according to which the seizing of innocent people is forbidden — Al-Musawi replied: "It is the same as with alcohol. Alcohol is forbidden under Islam, but when it is a medicine you are allowed to take as much as you need for your recovery."

Al-Musawi, however, denied that the pro-Iranian Hizballah (Party of God) is mixed up in the kidnapping of the two Germans or is holding them. Hoechst manager Cordes was kidnapped 17 January and Siemens technician Schmidt was kidnapped in Muslim West Beirut on 21 January.

"Muhammad 'Ali Hamadah does not belong to Hizballah," Al-Musawi said. His brother 'Abd al-Hadi Hamadah was, however, a Hizballah leader. "But that does not mean Hizballah is involved in such actions. There are other groups committed to Islam but we are not in contact with them and have no control over them."

Al-Musawi, who presently leads the radical "Islamic Amal" Movement (Lebanese Khomeyni supporters), said he thought the Bonn government acted as if it was a "U.S. colony." We like and respect the Germans very much, but its government is too weak vis-a-vis the Americans. They should adopt a more independent stance."

Asked about the state of the present negotiations between the Federal Government and the kidnappers of the two Germans, Al-Musawi replied that he knew nothing about the outcome. "I only know that the Germans have sent envoys to Beirut, Damascus, and Tehran."

Asked about the kidnappers' minimum demands for the release of Hamadah [as received], Al-Musawi said: "To my knowledge (it) is the release of Muhammad 'Ali Hamadah." The Shi'ite leader said Cordes and Schmidt might not have been kidnapped if there had not been so much publicity about Hamadah's extradition to the United States.

Al-Musawi referred to Arabs imprisoned in Spain and Italy who were involved in Hizballah activities. Despite this, no Spaniards or Italians had been kidnapped. He said the Hamadah affair could have been settled differently if it was just a matter of German justice. "But now it is too late and that is the price the Germans had to pay."

Asked about any other possible demands, Al-Musawi answered: "I believe they just want Muhammad 'Ali Hamadah." The Muslims did not bother about some extradition treaty between the Federal Republic and the United States. "And even if it is proved that Muhammad 'Ali was involved in the hijacking of a TWA plane, so what? We are at open war with the Americans, their planes, their cars, and their people, and the Germans should keep out of it."

Birri Says Terry Waite Not Held by Lebanese

NC050626 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 5 Feb 87

[Text] Minister Nabih Birri believes a U.S. military intervention in Lebanon would be the surest way to kill the hostages. As for Terry Waite's fate, Birri has announced Waite's captors are not Lebanese. In an interview on the French television's first channel, conducted in Damascus, Birri said: Many non-Lebanese leaders are behind Waite's detention. He asserted that Iran is not involved.

Abducted for Not Honoring Guarantees

NC041807 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] A senior militia official in West Beirut told *Reuter* today that Terry Waite has been kidnapped specifically because he failed to honor the guarantees he made to the kidnappers. The official added the guarantees concerned the fate of 17 Arabs detained in Kuwaiti prisons on charges of causing explosions in Kuwait.

Syrian Forces Reportedly Foil Kidnapping

NC041304 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1225 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] According to a report from Al-Biqa', gunmen kidnapped two Americans and an Englishman from the UN Emergency Forces in the Golan in the Barr Ilyas area 5 days ago as they were on their way to Shtawrah. Syrian intelligence intervened, however, and secured the release of those kidnapped.

The report included these details: A red Mercedes 230 belonging to 'Abbas Yaghi in which two companions, Hayil Amhaz and another unidentified person from the town of Al-Nabi 'Uthman, were riding, and a red military Land Rover belonging to Mufid al-Qantari blocked the path of a vehicle belonging to the UN Emergency Forces in the Golan carrying two members of the American disengagement force and a Briton from the Golan to Shtawrah. Syrian intelligence chased the kidnappers and arrested Hayil Amhaz and his companion and released the three kidnapped persons.

Continuing Fighting Between Amal, Palestinians

Fighting Despite Cease-Fire

NC041311 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] The agreement for a cease-fire on the camps front in Beirut and the south announced in Damascus last night and supported by Minister Nabih Birri and the PNSF, has not succeeded in halting the camps war. Intermittent clashes between the Amal Movement and the Palestinians on the combat lines of the Shatila and Burj al-Barajinah camps continued today. Automatic weapons, rockets, and artillery were used. The clashes were characterized by particular violence between 1130 and 1230 in the Shatila camp area.

Amal Movement sources said that neighborhoods adjacent to the Shatila camp came under 60-mm mortar fire at noon today and that a 6th Brigade soldier, Walid 'Abduh, was killed in today's clashes.

Palestinian sources said that this morning's clashes on the combat lines of the Shatila camp left one person in the camp dead and another wounded. The PFLP has accused the Amal Movement of violating the cease-fire agreement announced in Damascus last night. The Front said Amal gunmen shelled the Shatila and the Burj al-Barajinah camps from last night until noon today.

A PNSF source has affirmed that the cease-fire agreement announced last night will be the last, and its failure will lead to wide-scale deterioration, despite Iranian, Libyan, and Syrian pressures to ensure its success. The source affirmed the Iranians hold the Amal Movement responsible for any deterioration of the situation in Maghdushah following its members' return yesterday to the main Amal center in the town, which had been evacuated by members of the Nasirite Popular Organization. The source noted that Amal's return to this center has become an explosive factor.

PLO May Reoccupy Maghdushah

JN041658 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] Viloent clashes between the Amal gangs and the Palestinian fighters defending the Shatila and Burj al-Barajinah camps continued until midnight and then continued intermittently until morning. The PLO has reiterated the call for lifting the siege imposed by the Amal militias on the Palestinian camps and for guaranteeing the security of their civilian inhabitants.

In a news conference in Tunis last night, PLO Tunis representative Hasan Bal'awi said the PLO has responded to the efforts of the seven-member Arab committee headed by Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, Algerian foreign minister and head of the current Arab League Council session. He said that if [the attacks] do not cease, Palestinian fighters will again occupy the strategic town of Maghdushah.

Palestinians: Peace Plan Violated

LD051042 Tehran IRNA in English 1023 GMT 5 Feb 87

[Text] Beirut, Feb. 5, IRNA — Palestinian Muslim ulema in a statement Wednesday criticized the new tactic being employed by Palestinian forces in withdrawing from Maghdushah and described it as being in violation of Iran's peace plan and "playing with Palestinian nation".

Expressing deep concern over the bloodshed in Lebanon, the statement strongly demanded that the Islamic Republic of Iran follow up its efforts to settle the dispute. It also called on all Muslim forces and religious figures to endeavour to end the destructive war. The statement also called for the stationing of Hizballah forces in Maghdushah and called on the Palestinians to abandon international, Arab, and domestic political games and aim their weapons at the Zionist enemy.

Meanwhile, residents of Rashidiyah Palestinian camps in a message addressed to the leader of the Islamic revolution, Imam Khomeyni, and Ayatollah Montazeri as well as President Khamene'i and Prime Minister Musavi demanded that they take speedy measures to end the camp's siege in order to save the lives of its residents.

The message said that residents of the camp which had been made homeless due to the tyranny of the Zionist regime have been under the siege for the past four months and were living in a miserable condition.

In another statement, the association of Muslim ulema deplored stationing of Nasirite forces in Maghdushah and called for a settlement to the camps war through implementation of Iran's peace plan.

The statement stressed that Iran's peace plan offered the only real solution to the crisis, adding that conflicts in southern Lebanon and in the camps will be ended only by stationing of Hizballah forces in the buffer zone.

UK Paper Interviews Shi'ite Leader Shams al-Din

PM050907 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 30 Jan 86 p 13, 14

[Interview with Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams al-Din, deputy chairman of the Higher Islamic Shi'ite Council, by unnamed *Al-Hawadith* correspondent; date, place not given]

[Excerpts][passage omitted] Question: What is your opinion of the document that President al-Jumayyil submitted to the Syrians?

Answer: We have not officially seen the document. Therefore, we are not in a position to talk about it. However, our attitude toward it is one of reservation on the grounds that, just like other proposals, these proposals are based on ideas of limited reforms in the Lebanese regime. I already have said our opinion of this regime calls for change through democratic plurality based on the principle of consultation.

Question: There is no doubt that Israel will try to interfere with the Lebanese-Syrian dialogue and the inter-Lebanese dialogue as it has always done to sabotage things and create havoc. How can Israel's role be neutralized?

Answer: This is something we must always expect Israel to try to do with various means because it wants to prevent any inter-Lebanese rapprochement and it certainly wants to sabotage any Lebanese-Syrian and Lebanese-Arab rapprochement.

The question every Lebanese party must ask itself is what it can win from Israel and what it can win from the other Lebanese parties. All the Lebanese, and particularly all those whose attitude toward Israel ranges from loyalty to neutrality, must realize they can be no more than lackeys to Israel. Israel cannot protect any Lebanese party. This fact must be realized and should motivate the Lebanese toward solidarity and sustained efforts to achieve reconciliation and harmony to thwart Israel's plan because Israel is not aspiring to have allies in Lebanon. What it is aspiring for is to have agents in Lebanon and to turn Lebanon into a protectorate of its own. Any Lebanese individual or Lebanese group that has self-respect will not accept the role of agent of the Israeli enemy. We have experienced occupation and seen those who helped Israel occupy Lebanon. And everyone has seen the consequences of occupation and the consequences for those who collaborated with it.

Consciousness, solidarity, and far-sightedness as well as the outcome of alliances [not further specified] will ensure that Israel will no longer have the power to sabotage. [passage omitted]

Queston: The camps war is continuing despite all the initiatives and steps taken to put an end to it. Do you believe the Iranian initiative will achieve the desired results?

Answer: We are pained and grieved by the fact that the camps war is continuing. We have strongly cooperated with the continuing Syrian efforts to end this war. The Iranian initiative, which is still continuing, has achieved some results that cannot be ignored, but unfortunately it has not achieved the desired results thus far. We are sorry because one of the influential Palestinian parties is inisting on this war probably to achieve certain regional results. We hope the good offices will shortly lead to good results to end this grave tragedy in a manner ensuring the safety of the Palestinians' presence in Lebanon and simultaneously ensuring that the situation will not revert to what it was before 1982 militarily and politically [passage omitted].

Question: The kidnapping of foreigners in Lebanon is continuing. What is your attitude toward this and do you believe it serves or harms the Lebanese cause?

Answer: With regard to the kidnapping of foreigners, we adopt a well-known public stand. We consider such action to be politically wrong and morally reprehensible. We continuously condemn it and denounce it. As to whether it serves or harms the Lebanese cause, it is the most harmful action for the Lebanese problem; it has caused harm to the Lebanese at home and the greatest damage to Beirut. It has distorted the image of the Lebanese people abroad and created an atmosphere of instigation against Lebanon in general. In other words, it renders a great service to Lebanon's enemies and particularly the Israelis. For this reason we still denounce all such actions and call on the parties that practice them to stop doing so regardless of whatever gains this may achieve for them because in the end it will have adverse effects on the situation in Lebanon in general. [passage omitted]

Lebanese Front Questions U.S. Ban on Travel

NC041339 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Statement issued by the Lebanese Front following its weekly meeting on 4 February; read by Edward Hunayn — recorded]

[Text] The Lebanese Front has discussed the outline of the document called the national charter. The document will be distributed among the Front's members for study before a more detailed discussion during a coming meeting, after which the Lebanese Front will issue a statement on it.

The Lebanese Front reiterates the need to open Halat Airport and any other well-equipped airport in the country. The Halat Airport has met all technical requirements for use by international aviation. This is confirmed by studies carried out by international institutions in this respect. The Lebanese Front is astonished at the stand taken by the prime minister in this regard and requests the formation of a technical committee from Middle East Airlines to prepare a report on this matter and to announce its findings.

The Front is given pause by the U.S. declaration that its citizens are prohibited from travelling to Lebanon, noting that this measure does not differentiate between the areas in which terrorism is an established practice and the free areas which have been a refuge for foreign nationals and in which foreigners are still living in peace and security. The Front has prepared a memorandum to this effect which it will give to the U.S. ambassador to deliver to his government. In this memorandum the Front asks that a distinction be made between terrorists and those who fight terrorism and suffer its scourge.

UK Paper Interviews Lebanese Forces' Paqraduni

PM040853 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 30 Jan 87 pp 15-17

[Interview with Karim Paqraduni, deputy commander in chief of the Lebanese Forces, by William Dahir; date, place not given]

[Excerpts] [introductory passage omitted] [Dahir] It has been observed that the Lebanese Forces' attitude is not in favor of a Lebanese-Syrian summit although most sides expect good results from a meeting between Presidents Al-Jumayyil and Al-Asad, especially to ease the suffering at all levels, be it political, security, or economic. So, what is your position based on?

[Paqraduni] We would always, officially and publicly, welcome the holding of a Lebanese-Syrian summit and consider that such a summit, because of the arrangements already made, is important for a number of reasons:

First: To end the estrangement and separation between Lebanon and Syria and therefore the estrangement between the regime and the opposition.

Second: To discuss an alternative agreement to the "tripartite agreement."

Third: The agenda prepared by the president of the Republic is agreed to by the Forces and forms the basis for a solution if Syria also agrees.

Fourth: The importance of this agenda is that it does not exclude any sect or group but indeed opens the door for all sects and factions to participate in finding a solution. Therefore, for these reasons we consider a Lebanese-Syrian summit a progressive step in the Lebanese crisis.

[Dahir] What stage have negotiations reached regarding such a summit? What would you expect from such a meeting?

[Paqraduni] We do not expect results leading to a solution to the Lebanese crisis, but we do expect results that would lead to a truce. Regional and international circumstances, Syria's in particular, do not indicate that a solution would result from the 12th summit, but at the same time these circumstance encourage us to say a truce might be achieved.

[Dahir] When do you expect this summit to be held? Do you share former President Franjiyah's view that the chance of it being held is nil?

[Paqraduni] We do expect this summit to be held.

[Dahir] When?

[Paqraduni] A date has not yet been fixed but it should take place in the near future.

[Dahir] Some say that what has been circulated by the Lebanese Forces about their cordial relationship with President al-Jumayyil is not true and that this relationship is open to changes, if not to negative developments on the ground, especially if a Lebanese-Syrian summit is held and its outcome does not satisfy the Forces' objectives. What is your opinion?

[Paqraduni] The objective of such claims is to weaken the Lebanese negotiator and the president of the Republic in particular because the power of the Lebanese negotiator today is linked to the unity of the ranks around him. The president, through his negotiations with the Lebanese Forces, has managed to unite all Christian ranks. [passage omitted]

[Dahir] You are accused of obstructing any solution that can be reached. This has been confirmed by other factions which say the reason for your opposition to a summit is not because of some raised issues, but indeed because you do not want any solution to the Lebanese crisis, and consequently this will lead to the complete fragmentation and partition of the country.

[Paqraduni] The Lebanese Forces are forces of peace and stability, not forces of war. The proof of this is that as long as there are Lebanese Forces there will be stability and security. There will be chaos and war in the absence of such forces. Had the Lebanese Forces wanted the partition solution they could have adopted and achieved it because they had many partition offers. [passage omitted]

[Dahir] Speaking of solutions, you have previously declared that the Lebanese people have to wait until 1988 to witness the beginning of a solution to their crisis. Was this opinion based on information? How do you see developments during the period until then? Furthermore, can the Lebanese citizen wait an additional 2 years?

[Paqraduni] 1988 is the year when things fall due, and what will fall due will be the presidency of the Republic. I would merely mention that Syria entered Lebanon in 1976 just before former President Ilyas Sarkis was elected; in 1982 Israel invaded Lebanon before the election of Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil. Certainly, significant developments, equal to those of 1976 and 1982 put together, will take place in 1988. We, ourselves, hope it will be the year of the the Israelis' and the Syrians' departure.

[Dahir] Is it possible to know the nature of such developments?

[Paqraduni] The Lebanese Forces have an integrated plan for a solution, which is based on the following points:

First: The removal of all non-Lebanese armies and organizations from Lebanon.

Second: The deployment of international forces on and inside the Lebanese borders to help the Lebanese Army and internal security forces in enforcing the legitimate authority over all Lebanese territories.

Third: A declaration of Lebanon's neutrality.

Fourth: Drafting a new national charter for the Lebanese people. [passage omitted]

[Dahir] Officially and through its media Israel has accused the Lebanese Forces of entering into a deal with Yasir 'Arafat to bring Palestinian forces through ports under your control. The United States considers you have broken your agreement with Philip Habib in this respect. Is this true? Why does Israel insist on this?

[Paqraduni] Undoubtedly there is a coincidence of interests among Israel, the United States, and Syria against Yasir 'Arafat, each having its own reasons. Israel is against all Palestinians, indeed against the word "Palestinian" itself. To Israel this is an ideological position and its reactions are emotional. Israel does not accept recognition of any Palestinian or any Palestinian state; indeed it does not want recognition from any Palestinian or Palestinian state. The United States considers the PLO poses a threat to Israel's security and therefore it collaborates with Israel against the PLO, not the Palestinians. Syria is with the Palestinians but against their symbol represented by Yasir 'Arafat. So, the three forces got together and their interests coincided to wage a war against the PLO and its leader Yasir 'Arafat. This is the background to the camps war and the Israeli, American, and Syrian stand toward the Lebanese Forces. For our part, we consider the camps war a Palestinian-Syrian war which we do not want to be a party to or a victim of.

Second [as published]: We consider that a neutral stand toward this war would enable the legitimate Lebanese forces to be a solution to this war. Despite all the Israeli and Syrian accusations, we have today become the solution to the camps war. Israel wants the annihilation of the camps, not a solution for them. Syria is no longer accepted as an army for guaranteeing the camps' security because it has joined one party against another. Only Lebanese legitimacy, that is the Lebanese Army, is a possible solution because it has not taken part in the camps war. Our stand, despite all Israeli, American, and Syrian pressures, will not deviate from neutrality because we consider that we, through such a stand, would become the solution in the future.

[Dahir] Do you expect the camps war to end shortly, and when?

[Paqraduni] The camps war has not yet ended, and West Beirut is on the verge of a volcanic eruption. We believe this war is heading toward escalation rather than pacification. All factions want a military solution and are not working toward a political settlement. I do not find it unlikely that upheavals and surprises will take place in West Beirut because flames can still be kindled and daggers can still be drawn.

[Dahir] Some people are disappointed that you sided with the non-Lebanese against the Lebanese. What is your reply?

[Paqraduni] When we stood against Yasir 'Arafat these people took his side. We recall that when Yasir 'Arafat interfered in our internal affairs and undermined our national dignity, we confronted him in the fiercest military battles. When Yasir 'Arafat does not interfere in Lebanese affairs and does not undermine our national dignity we will not resort to war against the Palestinian because we are not fond of wars.

[Dahir] Available information confirms that the security plan sponsored by Syria in West Beirut and also Syrian deployment there are internationally accepted. So why do you oppose this plan and this deployment?

[Paqraduni] We have information indicating that the U.S.-Syrian dialogue has resumed, although not at a high level. We also have information that Syria is trying to embark on a new military deployment operation in West Beirut and on the coast road. Therefore, Damascus is trying to gain Lebanese backing through President al-Jumayyil or U.S. backing through new contacts because Arab and Islamic backing is no longer available. We have considered the Syrian forces' presence illegal since 1982. Therefore, any deployment or redeployment is illegal. We demand a timetable for the Syrian Army's withdrawal. We believe a Lebanese-Syrian summit should settle the issue of the Syrian military presence in Lebanon and fix a final specific period for the presence of these forces. An agreement of this sort would solve the problem between Syria and the Palestinians and the problem between Lebanon and Syria. [passage omitted]

[Dahir] How would you describe the Christian position in light of your estrangement from Israel and your constant dispute with Syria at a time when we see that the Western states do not agree with your political ideas? Do you not believe that by this you are leading the Christian society into isolation?

[Paqraduni] Contrary to all superficial appearances, the Christian community is today in the best position it has ever been since 1982; that is, after the death of Bashir al-Jumayyil. Christian internal unity is our base and it has achieved many objectives for us: First: We, the Lebanese Forces, are in contact with the Arab countries and we are witnessing an Arab coordination which we have not experienced before. Our relations with most Arab states exist; some are public, like our relations with Iraq and Egypt, and some are not, because they are kept secret to preserve them. Here, I would like to confirm that we have relations with six Arab states directly concerned with the crisis in Lebanon. As for our international relations, they are completely normal. We have full relations with Europe. We have relations with the United States, and our relations with the Soviet Union are improving. These relations are at the level of the Lebanese Forces. But at the level of the Lebanese regime and the Lebanese legitimacy, undoubtedly, the Lebanese legitimacy today is the option recognized internationally and regionally more than any other option. Therefore, we feel that we stand on firm ground; that is, Christian unity and the wide-ranging and far-reaching cover we enjoy. So, we are not the ones who are isolated; the others are.

[Dahir] How would you describe relations between the Lebanese Forces and Syria at present? Why do you not establish normal and good relations with Syria since it is a neighboring state and because goodneighborliness requires cordial relations?

[Paqraduni] The Lebanese Forces do not harbor any hostility toward Syria as a state and a regime. We look on Syria as a neighboring state and see that it is necessary to determine the nature of bilateral relations. Before talking about distinctive or special relations we have to establish normal, relaxed, and organized relations between Lebanon and Syria. In fact these relations have never been normal, relaxed, and organized since the independence of both countries; indeed, they have always been strained, sometimes through tensions and other times through interference: Either closed borders and estrangement between the two regimes or opened borders and interference in our internal affairs. On the basis of this fact, the Lebanese Forces are aiming to organize normal and relaxed relations between Lebanon and Syria stemming from the concept of goodneighborliness, sovereignty, independence, national dignity, both regimes' characteristics, and differences between the two peoples.

As for Syria as a regime, the Lebanese Forces respect the Syrian people's right to self-determination and to choose their regime and rulers. The Lebanese Forces see that Lebanon should not threaten Syria's security, and in return, Syria should refrain from interfering in Lebanon's internal affairs and from facilitating the crossing of its territories by others as it has done with the Palestinians and Iranians. Syria should respect the will of the Lebanese people and not put any pressure on them. We stress that the Lebanese Forces are not against Syria as a state or a regime but indeed against Syria in Lebanon as an illegitimate army and as a manifestation of illegal political interference.

The Lebanese Forces consider that continuation of the Syrian military presence delays an agreement between Lebanon and Syria. The more Syria withdraws from Lebanon the more its political relations with the Lebanese will improve. We want Syria to have relations with the Lebanese based on conviction and not on compulsion.

[Dahir] In light of all this, how do you view Syria's role in Lebanon? Do you believe the Lebanese crisis can be solved without Syria although some friendly states advise that Syria be included in discussions to find a solution?

[Paqraduni] Syria has a role to play in finding a solution to Lebanon's crisis, but Syria alone is not the answer to a whole solution. This is evident in the fact that it has stuck to, and indeed monopolized, the solution over the past 12 years but failed to achieve it, rejecting Arab and international solutions. It has also failed to protect Lebanon against the settlement of regional and international disputes on its land and also the spread of international terrorism from and to Lebanon. Syria's role should bebalanced; otherwise it will become a party rather than an umpire. Syria's alignment with one party against another will lead to it falling into factionalism, and its alignment with one sect at the expense of another will lead to it falling into the trap of sectarianism and even of ideologies. We want Syria to be a regime, not a faction; a solution, not a problem; and most of all a friend, not an enemy. This is how we understand Syria's role. It is a political role for a political solution and not a military role which would impose a military solution. In light of this, we hope President Hafiz al-Asad will personally reconsider the Lebanese file. As he has carried out a corrective move in Syria, we hope he will embark on a "corrective move" for Syrian policy in Lebanon. Such a step would extricate us all from the impossible.

[Dahir] How would you assess relations between the Forces and the Soviet Union at this stage? What have your contacts with the Soviets achieved so far?

[Paqraduni] We are seriously working hard to establish close relations with the Soviet Union and we consider its new leadership as auspicious, especially since its new ambassador to Lebanon, Vasiliy Kolotusha, reflects Soviet policy by being open with all Lebanese factions. He has been giving the Soviet Union an image acceptable to all Lebanese. [passage omitted].

President al-Jumayyil Departs for Jordan

NC041015 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0945 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil left Lebanon for Jordan before noon today. Prior to his departure the president met with the Lebanese delegation to the Damascus talks in the presence of General Michel 'Awn, the Army commander.

Shamir Repeats Stance on U.S. Military Operation

TA042008 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
2000 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has repeated the United States has not asked Israel to help it in a military operation to rescue the hostages held in Lebanon, but if such an appeal comes, we will consider it. On internal affairs, Mr Shamir said he has no intention of exerting his influence to speed up approval of the new state budget. Our correspondent David Ehrlich reports Mr Shamir was speaking during a sports event in the Betar games tournament in Jerusalem.

Peres on 6th Fleet Presence

TA041131 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1100 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text) Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres says the presence of the 6th Fleet opposite Lebanese shores serves as a broad hint to the Lebanese. According to Peres, the Lebanese have reached an unprecedented degree of lawlessness, and have acted without interference so far. At the same time, Mr Peres cannot precisely divine U.S. intentions. Mr Peres held a meeting in 'Arad with heads of local authorities in the Negev. He said that in his meeting with the Egyptian president at the end of next month he will discuss ways to promote the peace process and relations between the two countries.

Egypt Denies Minister Calls Israel 'Prime Enemy'

TA041713 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1700 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] Egypt has officially explained its defense minister did not say Israel is Egypt's prime enemy. Our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports the clarification was transmitted to Israel's ambassador to Cairo and later conveyed to Jerusalem.

Rabin Interviewed on Hostages, Iran Affair

TA042110 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1940 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Interview with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin by *Yedi'ot Aharonot* military commentator Ron Ben-Yishay and military correspondent Moshe Shlonsky; moderated by political correspondent Yoram Ronen — live in the "Moqed" studio]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] [Ronen] Mr Minister, with your permission let us discuss the affair of the hostages. U.S. warships are currently nearing Lebanese shores, and the question is: Do you think it would be possible to bring about the release of the hostages, or is the announcement we heard today from Washington — that the United States would not take any action unless harm befalls the hostages — the final word on the subject at this stage?

[Rabin] When we discuss the release of hostages, one should bear in mind the main problem is how to obtain information on their whereabouts. After that, if there is such information, it is necessary to determine whether it is possible to carry out a military operation to bring about their release. I doubt whether anybody knows where the hostages are and, consequently, I am doubtful about the ability to carry out a rescue operation. I find it hard to believe the United States will carry out a punitive operation because it would endanger the hostages.

[Shlonsky] Is there cooperation between us and the United States on the hostages or the latest case of kidnappings, or have there been any contacts on the matter?

[Rabin] As a rule, whenever the issue is hostages, and not specifically in the context of military operations, we maintain contacts — and this definitely is true when the issue involves our own MIA's or hostages — with anyone in the world who can help us find out anything about their whereabouts and bring about their release. As for military operations, usually any country planning an operation, if it does so, keeps these details and its very desire to launch such a campaign under a veil of deep secrecy, excluding other countries in its thinking. When we planned the Entebbe rescue operation, we never made any other country privy to our planning.

[Shlonsky] Did we provide the Americans with information on the hostages in Lebanon over the last few days?

[Rabin] Not anything in particular.

[Ben-Yishay] Mr Rabin, assuming the United States currently has no military option, what would you recommend to the United States? Or perhaps would you suggest international cooperation to deal with the subject of hostages?

[Rabin] In light of the many claims emanating from the United States that we have taken the role of advisers and leaders, let me say we do not offer advice before we are asked to do so. However, the United States has not asked us to advise it on what to do about its hostages in any concrete terms. Usually there is cooperation between Israel and many countries. I would like to say there is a difference: Most of the hostages from the Western countries — the United States, France, the FRG — are civilians residing in Beirut. I do not know of one hostage held by Hizballah who was not kidnapped while in Beirut. If I were to give any piece of advice to those countries, I would say: Hurry up and evacuate your citizens from Beirut. When it comes to Israeli MIA's or hostages, it would be worthwhile to remember we have no civilian hostages. Both the MIA's and those who were kidnapped are all military men who were either found missing following a military operation or were kidnapped as a result of military activity where they were armed or flying their aircraft. This makes the circumstances different. I take pride in the fact that for years, in effect since the Entebbe operation in which the Air France aircraft was hijacked to that city, no terrorists or terrorist organizations of any type, no matter where, have taken Israeli hostages, with the exception of the three who lost their way north of Beirut. They have not managed to kidnap an Israeli civilian to hold him hostage. I regard this as a major achievement that credits all the security services and security arrangements regarding Israeli civilians.

[Ronen] Mr Rabin, you have just said we do not volunteer advice to the United States, but the United States has been volunteering accusations against us. At the beginning of the week, the cabinet issued a communique categorically rejecting the Senate's accusations about our role in the Iran affair and the contras. Do you get the impression someone in the U.S. Administration is trying to turn us into the scapegoat?

[Rabin] I do not want to speculate. The Senate Intelligence Committee published a report I believe is very inaccurate and incomplete and, consequently, reached the wrong conclusions about Israel's role in conceiving the notion of U.S.-Israeli cooperation to supply arms to Iran to achieve our goals, about any financial gains made by Israel in these transactions, and certainly about the allegation I initiated the supply of arms to the contras. The truth is exactly the opposite. I was asked by a very active figure in this sphere who held a prominent job in the National Security Council in the White House...

[Ben-Yishay, interrupting] During your visit in Washington?

[Rabin] During my visit in Washington last September, I was asked by that person to assist the contras. He was told in the clearest way possible: Israel will not maintain contacts with the contras; it will not help either with weapons or with advice.

[Shlonsky] Regardless of the Senate Intelligence Committee report, does the embroglio of the arms supply to Iran not stem from an amateurish performance on our part? The Mossad was out of the picture, and arms dealers were actively involved and conducted negotiations on behalf of the State of Israel. Later, the negotiations were exclusively conducted by 'Amiram Nir, who was no expert on this issue. Do you not think the apparent amateurish handling of the affair did us in?

[Rabin] Look, the handling could have been called amateurish had the leak come from sources connected with either Israel or the United States. However, the leak about these deals came from Iran as a result of internal differences, presumably following a temporary deterioration in Ayatollah Khomeyni's health, exacerbating these differences. The report was apparently relayed to a Syrian source and the Syrians had an interest in publicizing the matter. The report was printed in a Lebanese paper which we know is very close to the Syrians.

In other words, you could talk about amateurish performance if the affair had broken out as a result of Israeli, U.S., or joint Israeli-U.S. actions. However, that is not how things developed.

[Shlonsky] Had that been the case you would not have had a problem with the Americans on the arms affair, regardless of Iran?

[Rabin] I do not think so.

[Ben-Yishay] You mentioned amateurism only as far as the leak of the affair is concerned. However, the performance was also amateurish, and there were many mishaps both during the first and second phases, which to a great extent stemmed from the fact the people involved were not professionals — therein lies the amateurism. The leak, on the other hand, was not caused by amateurism but from wrong moves, such as McFarlane's trip to Tehran. That was not an example of amateurism but rather a wrong move.

[Rabin] I would not like to say whether it was right or wrong because moves must be tested by the objectives and the results, of course. I do not agree there were mishaps in this entire complex affair to deliver arms, for the most part, from the United States via Israel to Iran under rather complicated circumstances and conditions. Well, considering the events, any such mishaps would be few. There were practical results although the matter was exposed by all the events that ensued; but we discussed that in the earlier question.

[Ben-Yishay] Regarding the weapons to the contras, can you say arms from Israel did not get to the contras?

[Rabin] To the best of my knowledge, both during my tenure as defense minister and earlier, arms from Israel did not get to the contras. I am sure they did not get to them directly, and I believe neither did they get to them indirectly in the past.

[Ronen] Mr Rabin, the U.S. Congress is threatening to cut aid to any country supplying arms or military equipment to South Africa. A report on this issue will be submitted to Congress at the beginning of April. Do you think we should fear a cut in U.S. aid because of our relations with South Africa?

[Rabin] Allow me to tell you what our principle on this matter is: Israel cannot in the least bit endanger its relations with the United States and the vast aid we receive from it, which includes $1.8 billion in military aid per year. It is inconceivable any Israeli Government, for one reason or another and regardless of your specific question, should take any action which might endanger this aid — and I will not elaborate on this point.

[Ronen] Does endangering our relations with South Africa seem less serious to you?

[Rabin] I reiterate: The principle guiding the government is not to jeopardize our relationship with the United States in the defense sphere under any circumstances whatsoever. This is such an enormous sum that without it, it would be hard to preserve the IDF and the security of the State of Israel.

[Ben-Yishay] Dr Yosi Beilin, the Foreign Ministry's political director general, has openly demanded we impose sanctions on South Africa. You appear to disagree with him. Are you still demanding a Foreign Ministry discussion of the matter?

[Ronen] Or preventing one?

[Rabin] I cannot prevent discussions. I think when it comes to sanctions, Israel would be well advised to be wary. Israel, more than other country in the world, has been the object of sanctions, so I would recommend when it comes to sanctions, we not jump up front.

[Ronen] Still, you prevented a Foreign Ministry debate, or at least asked that this debate on South Africa not be held.

[Rabin] I am glad it did not take place.

[Shlonsky] With your permission, Mr Minister, let us move to the Lavi plane. Even before the Zakheim report, there was strong opposition to the aircraft both in the Air Force and in the IDF in general. Do you think it would be right to earmark $9 or $10 billion toward a project whose consumers by and large oppose it?

[Rabin] I think the way you phrased the question, differentiating between those who are in favor of and those who oppose it, is inaccurate. When it comes to the Lavi, it is first of all necessary to know where we stand. We agreed the Americans would present alternatives; they have. At first glance, before the debate has been concluded, it seems to me the U.S. alternatives, if one is to accept the Israel Aircraft Industries [IAI] data on the Lavi as it currently exists, do not indicate a marked gap in the cost of manufacturing the aircraft. Let me give you an example: Zakheim projected for the planners of the alternatives a maximum annual cost for their manufacture in Israel or abroad of $475 million in 1984 prices, while this year this sum already stands between $520 and $530 million. My ceiling for the Lavi was $550 million, so I do not believe the cost gap between the alternatives is all that big. The problem is at present both the Lavi and Zakheim's alternatives could exceed our financial capabilities.

[Shlonsky] So what is the conclusion from all this?

[Rabin] We have not yet reached one. Right now the cabinet resolution to carry on with the development and production of the Lavi stands. Let me say if we were facing a brand new situation today, without the investment of more than $1.25 billion, and other commitments, I doubt I would have favored the Lavi. But this is not the case when the circumstances are such that we have commitments both in the United States and in Israel on this issue.

[Ronen] But similar things have happened in the past: Britain went back on plans to proceed with the development of an aircraft on which it had spent hundreds of millions of dollars; Canada and the United States have been known to do likewise. Is this not the case here, too?

[Rabin] That is true, except I am not facing a hypothetical question. When the decision was made, the defense budget and what we knew here about the possibilities were the absolute opposite of what the defense establishment is facing today.

[Ben-Yishay] What is your position on the option of the Lavi versus the purchase of the F-16c, mounted with Israeli avionics, from U.S. shelves?

[Rabin] I think one such proposal is included in the suggested alternatives, but I do not think it offers a significant solution. However, we will reach a decision on this subject toward the end of February.

[Shlonsky] Mr Minister, according to your presentation above, alternatives are unacceptable now, even in part.

[Rabin] There is as yet no final official decision.

[Shlonsky] But assuming the alternative we mentioned is not accepted — and that seems to be the general drift of things — will you recommend the Lavi project continue, or an alternative U.S. aircraft be selected?

[Rabin] The moment I reach a decision, I will first present it to the Inner Cabinet, and will not report my decision before that forum holds a discussion.

[Shlonsky] Will you demand the Lavi project continue with an addition of $100 million for it beyond what is in the defense budget?

[Rabin] I believe if the decision is to go ahead with the Lavi within the existing budgetary framework, it will be extremely difficult to envision fulfilling the aim to complete the Lavi's development and production.

[Ben-yishay] Mr Rabin, there can be no "Moqed" program with the defense minister without asking him about Syria. Do you think a war with Syria lies in store for us in the next 1 or 2 years?

[Rabin] I have never presumed to prophesy about wars. I believe there are initial indications showing the economic distress in Syria has begun having an effect on Syria's ability to continue to beef up its Army, particularly when it comes to maintaining a regular force. At present, I have grounds to believe we are going to see a reduction in Syria's regular ground forces, although not in the Air Force or the Navy. This will not entail a reduction in the size of the Army, but rather the transfer of some of the regular ground forces into the reserves. If this occurs, it seems to me we will see a change in the build-up trend, particularly in the regular Syrian Army. I would not hasten to any conclusions, however.

In such an event, if the peace with Egypt remains steadfast, if the war between Iran and Iraq or the tension between them persists, and if there is a certain reduction in the Syrian regular ground forces, the IDF will be able to pursue its desired objective: trying to improve its quality both in terms of manpower and equipment in the long run, while taking the risk to decrease the volume of the entire Army — not the regular force — in the near future.

[Ronen] Does this mean you agree with the assessment — which I believe was mentioned this week in a newspaper article —that according to Dan Shomron's concept the IDF must be a compact and strong Army that must be exploited to the maximum possible?

[Rabin] I do not want to attribute this to anybody. During my term in office, the Army has been going through a reduction in volume and activities, with the aim to attain a reduction giving us enough leeway for improved quality. The objective the IDF has begun pursuing and must continue to pursue is less quantity and more quality.

[Ronen] Mr Rabin, this is our last question. In 2 or 3 weeks you will be celebrating your 65th birthday. What do you wish yourself in the future?

[Rabin] I have not thought about it. When one reaches such an age one usually looks back and reflects.

[Ronen] People usually retire at this age.

[Rabin] Not in politics, fortunately. I wish first to be able to continue working. Second, I wish that in the field in which I am working and of which I am presently in charge I will be able to prevent wars, reduce terrorism, and give more security and tranquillity to the State of Israel while decreasing the economic and other burdens imposed on the state.

[Ronen] Mr Defense Minister, I thank you very much and wish you a happy birthday. Thanks to my colleagues Moshe Shlonsky and Ron Ben-Yishay, and to the spectators at home, a good night.

U.S. 'Formally' Requests Iran Probe Cooperation

TA050528 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 5 Feb 87

[Text] The United States has formally requested Israel's cooperation in the Presidential Commission probe on the arms to Iran affair. The request was put by commission chairman, former Senator John Tower, to Israel's Ambassador Me'ir Rosenne at the White House yesterday. An embassy spokesman said Israel is ready to cooperate. He did not say what form the cooperation would take, but *The Associated Press* quotes a source as saying Israel preferred to give written statements to the American investigating teams.

Knesset Sources Cited

TA041839 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] The Intelligence Subcommittee of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee today endorsed the government's account of the Iran arms affair after questioning the prime minister's adviser on terrorism, 'Amiram Nir, and the former director general of the Foreign Ministry, David Kimche. However, the subcommittee still has tough questions to put on the Iran affair and soon expects to interrogate arms dealers Ya'aqov Nimrodi and Al Schwimmer. Jack Katzenell reports:

[Begin recording][Katzenell] Although Intelligence Subcommittee members have reservations about the way the government handled the Iran arms affair, they do not have any doubts about the government's version of the facts, as we heard from the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee Secretary Uri Raday.

[Raday] The information received by the subcommittee gives no reason to question the Government of Israel's statement on Israel's role in the various stages of this action.

[Katzenell] Raday's statement did not mention the supply of arms or money to the contras. But senior sources on the sub-committee told me: We are absolutely convinced that Israel was not involved in this. 'Amiram Nir was questioned on it, he categorically denied it, and the subcommittee was persuaded.

As for the foreign media reports that Israel supplied arms to Honduras which then passed them on to the contras, one informed source told me: Israel does supply arms to Central American countries and does not feel obliged to report on this to anybody. When you sell arms to somebody you never really know what happens to them afterwards, but it would have been worse if Israel had sold arms to the Sandinistas — and Israel did not help anybody to circumvent the U.S. congressional ban on the sale of arms to the contras. Nobody of any consequence in the United States is even saying this, the Knesset source said. McFarlane didn't say it. Only people like North who are trying to save their hides are saying it.

Sooner or later, the subcommittee expects, it will have to issue a report, as the Senate subcommittee did. But the Knesset body does not want to get into a controversy with its American counterpart. They are in a different situation from us, a Knesset source said. We are not probing illegalities; there is no Knesset law against selling arms to Iran. All we want to know is whether the government acted wisely. [end recording]

No Change in Joint Chinese Projects Policy

TA051124 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 5 Feb 87 p 15

[Report by David Lipkin]

[Text] Chinese elements have lately sent messages to international elements who have contacts with Israel that there is no change in the implementation of joint projects, despite developments in the PRC in recent weeks. It was emphasized everything is continuing according to the agreed plans.

In recent weeks Israeli elements carrying out projects in China together with international elements have been concerned about events in that country. Unclear signals, which could partly indicate some change in policy have emerged. However, messages have been received lately clarifying there has been no change in policy and the PRC is interested in continuing the implementation of various projects.

It also became clear representatives engaged in mediating between the Chinese and Israelis and others are expanding their activity in China and are opening branches in addition to existing offices.

State Attorney's Office Views Vanunu Appeals

TA041818 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] The State Attorney's Office maintains that Mordekhay Vanunu tried to pass on secret information 3 days ago. Our correspondent Gil'ad Sher says the attempt was made during Vanunu's meeting with his relatives. The State Attorney's Office today submitted a summary response to Vanunu's appeal in which he requests an Anglican priest visit him and that he not be held in solitary confinement. The summary response says Vanunu might abuse the priest's visit to transfer secret information through him in contravention of the law; furthermore, there is a danger these reports might find their way to the press.

Alternatively, the State Attorney's Office suggests it would agree to allow Vanunu to meet with a priest under conditions similar to the ones made possible for him to meet his girlfriend, although that visit never materialized because of his refusal to accept the terms.

As for his appeal against being held in solitary confinement, the State Attorney's Office claims this confinement stems from reasons of state security and his own personal safety. The State Attorney's Office fears he might pass on secret information to other security prisoners or could even be hurt by other inmates who do not wish him well.

Vanunu's two appeals will be debated by the Jerusalem District Court tomorrow. The court will also decide on Vanunu's appeal for license to meet with his girlfriend under what he calls reasonable conditions.

Vanunu is continuing his 32-day hunger strike, and it has been reported he has difficulty reading.

ALGERIA

Bendjedid Receives UN Secretary General

LD041226 Algiers APS in English 1039 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] Algiers, 04 Feb 87 (APS) — President Chadli Bendjedid audienced Tuesday here the UN secretary general, Javier Perez de Cuellar.

During the audience tete a tete talks on international topical questions were held.

Following the audience, Perez de Cuellar left Algiers after a several day visit to Algeria.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Fatah Official al-Wazir

NC041828 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 1815 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution has received [Fatah's] Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir].

Report on Talks

LD041757 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi yesterday received Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], Fatah Movement Central Committee member and deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolutionary Forces. Brother Abu Jihad reviewed, during the meeting, the situation in the Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon and the continued siege and shelling to which they are subjected, as well as continued attacks, and the immediate efforts needed to stop the war of annihilation waged against the our masses in their camps. The meeting also dealt with the condition of our Palestinian people in the occupied land and the developments in popular uprising against Zionist occupation and its continued repressive practices. A comprehensive review of the situation in the Palestinian arena and ways to strengthen the unity of Palestinian action there was also made. The meeting was positive and dominated by a spirit of fraternity and concern for the unity of Palestinian and pan-Arab struggle, as described by a responsible source.

The Libyan leader stressed the Jamahiriyah's principled and firm stand in support of the Palestinian revolution and the Palestinian people's struggle to achieve its national objectives, maintain its unity, and end its sufferings.

Al-Qadhdhafi Reportedly Wants To Host PNC Meeting

JN050721 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0630 GMT 5 Feb 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 5 Feb (WAKH) — Press reports in Abu Dhabi today cited senior Palestinian sources as saying Libya had expressed desire to host the PNC meeting in Tripoli. *Al-Ittihad* reported Libyan President [title as received] al-Qadhdhafi expressed this desire to Khalil al-Wazir alias Abu Jihad, during their meeting the night before last. The sources said PFLP Secretary General George Habash met with Abu Jihad yesterday and the Palestinian circles attach great importance to this meeting in relation to Libyan-Palestinian relations, especially with the Fatah Movement.

Al-Qadhdhafi Warns France: 'Tiptoe Out' of Chad

NC051157 Paris AFP in English 1142 GMT 5 Feb 87

[By Marie Joannidis]

[Text] Surt Libya, Feb 5 (AFP) — Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi on Thursday warned France to "tiptoe out" of Chad to escape the wrath of a "people's war" which he said was looming there.

"I know that Chadians will in future be involved in a serious conflict between them and that conflict will greatly affect French troops in Chad," Col. al-Qadhdhafi said in an interview.

Speaking to two Western reporters at a revolutionary committee barracks about 300 kilometres (180 miles) east of Tripoli, Col. al-Qadhdhafi said that "the confrontation will not be between Libyans and French", who are backing opposing sides in the Chadian conflict.

It would be, he said "a sort of people's war by Chadians against the French Army," warning that French troops supporting the government of Hissein Habre would be attacked by people appearing "at any Chadian spot, in Ndjamena or even from under the earth."

Col. al-Qadhdhafi said that Mr. Habre, emboldened by U.S. and French military aid to call for an attack on the disputed Aouzou Strip, threatened Libya's southern border.

Libya has held the border strip for a number of years, and is alleged by Ndjamena to be trying to annex the whole of the north of Chad, a former French colony.

Col. al-Qadhdhafi called allegations by Ndjamena that he had thousands of troops in northern Chad and had bombed Chadian communities "vulgar and devoid of any basis." But he warned that if there was an attack on the Aouzou Strip, "there will be an open conflict, regardless of the 16th Parallel".

The 16th Parallel was the unofficial demarcation line between territory held by Mr. Habre and that held by the Libyan-backed Transitional Government of National Union (GUNT) of former President Goukouni Oueddei. But since December Ndjamena's troops have been fighting north of the line alongside supporters of Mr. Goukouni who turned against the Libyans, inflicting reverses on Col. al-Qadhdhafi's forces.

France has said its 1,400 troops in Chad would not join in but would help defend Ndjamena against any attacks south of the line.

Col. al-Qadhdhafi said France should help African countries with economic aid and "not with cannon and tanks," and invited his "French friends" to "tiptoe away" from a conflict that could last "forever."

Although heavily escorted, the Libyan leader seemed relaxed. He arrived at the barracks in a Range Rover, reportedly from a soccer game in nearby (Gordabia). He refused to comment on subjects other than Chad.

While denying the presence of large numbers of Libyan troops in Chad, he repeated an earlier statement that one Libyan unit, whose size he refused to give, had intervened to save Libyan "technicians and advisers" caught in the middle of feuding Chadian factions.

That intervention, he said, had caused a misunderstanding between Libya and supporters of Mr. Goukouni. He denied reports that Mr. Goukouni, who has been replaced as the head of the GUNT by Acheikh Ibn Oumar, had been detained in Tripoli and wounded by his Libyan guards.

Col. al-Qadhdhafi criticized France for allegedly having helped Mr. Habre to revolt when he was the defence minister in the GUNT, which he ousted from Ndjamena in 1982.

Saying that Mr. Habre was only the leader of a tribe and a region and Mr. Goukouni the sultan of the Tibesti region in northern Chad, he said the new GUNT leaders were "civilised elements", and "intellectuals who do not belong to armed bands and do not have tribal attitudes."

Col. al-Qadhdhafi admitted that the situation in Chad was "very complicated and very difficult".

"All the Chadian tribes have relations in Libya and vice versa," he said. "It is difficult to separate them from each other".

Gunt 'Squad' Issues Statement in Khartoum

LD042231 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] The Political Bureau of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Chad, which is one of the GUNT squads, condemned the colonialist U.S.-French interference in Chad and their support to the mutinous Habre.

A statement issued by the Front's Political Bureau in Khartoum included: We call on all Chadians, at home and abroad, to firmly stand against the imperialist conspiracy set up by U.S. intelligence, which is accurately implemented by the French Government. The bureau announced its support for the Chadian new GUNT, which struggles for the comprehensive national unity.

The statement called the international public opinion's attention to the conspiracies, which are drawn with the consent of one of the traitors, the mutinous Habre, who is playing a sinister role against the security and stability of the Chadian citizen.

Sudanese State Council Member, Delegation Visit

LD041535 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] Dr 'Ali Hasan Taj al-Din, member of the State Council in the fraternal Democratic Republic of the Sudan, and his accompanying delegation arrived in Tripoli at noon today on a visit to the Great Jamahiriyah.

He was welcomed at Tripoli International Airport by Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi and the secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison. Members of the Sudanese Embassy in the Great Jamahiriyah participated in the welcome.

Dr. 'Ali Hasan Taj al-Din made a statement to JANA in which he praised the depth of the fraternal relations linking the sons of the Arab people in the two countries. He said, we and the accompanying delegation are very honored to be in our first homeland, the Jamahiriyah. Sudan and the Jamahiriyah are one country, linked by a common struggle. I convey the greetings of State Council Chairman Ahmad al-Mirghani, Prime Minister Sadiq al-Mahdi, and the Sudanese people to the brother leader of the revolution, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, and the Libyan Arab people. He said Sudan, proceeding from the principle of sincere Arab fraternity and good-neighborliness linking us with the Jamahiriyah, categorically rejected the use of Sudanese airspace for the passage of U.S. aircraft. We believe Chad's independence and security is Sudan's independence and security. The security of Sudan is that of the Jamahiriyah; therefore, we see it as an obligation to prevent foreign aircraft from passing through our airspace to intervene on the African Continent.

MOROCCO

Uruguayan Foreign Minister Ends 'Positive' Visit

LD041446 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] Uruguayan Foreign Minister Enrique Iglesias has described the outcome of his visit to Morocco as positive and his talks with Moroccan officials as useful. In a statement he made prior to his departure from Casablanca today, he especially stressed the framework agreement, signed during his visit, regarding cooperation in the economic, cultural, scientific, and technological spheres. The Uruguayan foreign minister stated the contacts of the Uruguayan businessmen and contractors who accompanied him were aimed at consolidating the two countries' links in the economic and trade spheres. He also mentioned his visit to phosphate installations and added there are wider prospects and possibilities to bolster cooperation in all fields between Morocco and Uruguay.

SUDAN

'Enemy' Positions at Rumbek Shelled, 13 Killed

EA042103 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Excerpt] Enemy positions in Rumbek came under heavy shelling by units of Zalan Battalion on 23d January 1987. Our correspondent in the area has said the SPLA forces operating under overall command of Lieutenant-Colonel Bona Abang Dhol and direct command of Major Andrew Anyang (Malit) succeeded in hitting a number of enemy targets in the operation, killing 13 enemy troops and injuring 6 others. [passage omitted]

Over 20 Militiamen Killed

EA042108 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Excerpt] Radio SPLA has learnt that SPLA's Abyei Task Force under the command of First Lieutenant Deng Ajok engaged Sadiq's militia force between 21st and 23d January this year at (Mariel Makuet) in northern Bahr al-Ghazal at about the same time SPLA forces under the overall command of Lieutant Colonel Chuol Ayuwak were fighting other units of the militia force at Akuach and Mangol Akuk.

Our correspondent has said that Abyei Task force killed over 20 militiamen and wounded a similar number. Three camels that were being used by the militia were killed and a large quantity of medicine was seized. Children and cattle which had been forcefully taken from the citizens by the militia in earlier raids were also retrieved. [passage omitted]

WESTERN SAHARA

Saharan Ministry Denies Iranian Among Fighters

LD041759 Tehran IRNA in English 1739 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] Belgrade, Feb. 4, IRNA — Representatives of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic (SADR) in Algiers have strongly denied allegations by the Moroccan News Agency (MAP) that an Iranian was discovered by the Moroccan Army among Saharan fighters during a "mopping-up" operation.

According to press reports from Algiers Wednesday, the Saharan Information Ministry said that the report was "an attempt to counter the attention of the world and especially of Muslim states on the presence of Israeli officers among Moroccan Army officers."

"This", said the Saharan Ministry, "is done in order to ideologically justify the colonizer's presence and drag non-African powers into the conflict".

ETHIOPIA

WPE Official Meets Mongolian Foreign Minister

EA042227 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] Talks aimed at further strengthening relations between the WPE and the Mongolian Peoples Revolutionary Party [MPRP] and their people were held at the WPE Central Committee office today. The talks were held between Comrade Ashagre Yigletu, WPE Central Committee member and secretary, and Comrade Mangalyn Dugersuren, member of the MPRP Central Committee and Mongolian foreign minister. During their discussions the two parties exchanged views on current international issues.

Comrade Ashagre pointed out that priority attention was being given to the resettlement of our drought-afflicted compatriots in accordance with the WPE's action plan to strengthen the country's economy in line with the 10-year development plan, and to establish the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. Comrade Ashagre noted that the WPE has strong ties with forces who stand for world peace and freedom and with progressive countries. He added it would also strengthen ties in various sectors with the long-established MPRP.

For his part, Comrade Mangalyn Dugersuren noted that the MPRP wishes to see relations between the two parties and peoples further strengthened.

Berhanu Meets Mongolian Counterpart

EA041656 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0900 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] Comrade Berhanu Bayeh, member of the Politburo of the WPE Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs, today held talks with Comrade Mangalyn Dugersuren, member of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and foreign minister of Mongolia. The talks held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs focused on bilateral relations and issues related to the desire to further develop the existing relations between their parties and governments for the benefit of their people. They also talked about their common views and strong stand regarding peace, disarmament, the struggle against imperialism and the international situation in general.

In addition to briefing him on the objective situation in Ethiopia, Comrade Berhanu explained the activities in establishing the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia [PDRE]. Comrade Berhanu expressed confidence that this visit would strengthen the existing relations between the two countries, pointing out that significant experiences has been acquired through their mutual visits since the inception of our revolution.

On his part, Comrade Dugersuren detailed the various victories achieved by his country since the Mongolian people's revolution and elaborated Mongolia's close relationship in particular with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. Comrade Dugersuren went on to say that the people, government, and party of his country admired the victories scored by the Ethiopian revolution and the current efforts being made for strengthened socioeconomic development. He further expressed confidence that the efforts being made to establish the PDRE would realize their goal.

SOMALIA

Further Reportage on Abduction of French Doctors

Djibouti Minister on Delay

LD051018 Paris Domestic Service in French 0900 GMT 5 Feb 87

[Text] The release of the 10 "Doctors Without Borders" group, abducted on 24 January in Somalia, near the Ethiopian border, will be delayed. The Djibouti foreign minister, speaking at a news conference this morning, indicated that there should be a little more patience for a week because there are practical problems.

Meanwhile, negotiations continue with the abductors of the six women and four men, and despite a news blackout on the current talks, it is said in Djibouti that a positive outcome is imminent.

Radio Halgan Warning on Hostages

EA042026 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1700 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] While representatives from France and senior Somali National Movement [SNM] officials are preparing to meet to minimize the problem of the French hostages abducted by one of the SNM fighter cells from inside Somalia, it has become clear to us that the Siad Barre regime is trying to retake these people using soldiers armed with sophisticated weapons. Therefore, should SNM fighters and Siad's soldiers clash over this matter, the Mogadishu regime is responsible for any harm which may befall the French people. For this reason, the SNM warns that the Siad Barre regime could easily commit such a sin.

SNM strongly reminds France to be vigilant to avert such a move by the Siad Barre regime and to take every possible step necessary to prevent this dangerous situation and the results that could ensue. The SNM calls on the international community to condemn the Siad Barre regime for such conspiracies which endanger the lives of innocent people whose release is being sought by SNM officials and France.

CAMEROON

AFP: African Development Bank Grants Loans

AB022109 Paris AFP in French 1527 GMT 2 Feb 87

[Excerpt] Yaounde, 2 Feb (AFP) — Babacar Ndiaye, president of the African Development Bank (BAD), signed three loan agreements with Cameroon today in Yaounde totalling $105 million (35 billion CFA francs). These loans will be used to finance projects included in Cameroon's sixth development plan. The projects are the construction of the Mbalmayo-Ebolowa Road in the border Province du Sud, a project that is also of interest to Gabon and Equatorial Guinea; integrated rural development in the Sud-Ouest Province; and the construction of a drainage system in Yaounde. [passage omitted]

CHAD

FANT High Command Says Libyans Bomb Fada 3 Feb

AB041412 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1330 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Communique No 24 issued by the FANT High Command in Ndjamena on 4 February]

[Text] Chadian National Armed Forces High Command Communique No 24: After losing a combat helicopter on 1 February and a MiG-25 jet fighter on 2 February over the town of Zouar in the Tibesti region, the Libyan Air Force from 1615 local time yesterday carried out several intensive and savage bombing raids on the town of Fada, which was freed by the valiant FANT. On the same day, 3 February, another T-55 tank (?was destroyed by) a mine near the town of Zouar.

Final victory is ours because the cause being defended heroically by the FANT is just.

Radio on 'Major Psychological Defeat' for Libya

AB041715 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1330 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] Colonel Kamougue, a great opposition figure, will return to Ndjamena tomorrow. This is a major psychological defeat for the Libyan regime, after its successive military setbacks. It is also the result of a discreet but efficient policy of national reconciliation pursued by the Chadian Government.

Moussa Dago comments:

Goukouni yesterday and Kamougue today; Tripoli does not need more than this to abandon its last illusions on Chad. It is definitely the coup de grace for the Libyan strategy of using compatriots who agreed to play into Libya's hands. Kamougue, although with no military power today, was once, for the Libyans, a legal representative of a so-called government Libya used to cover its action in Chad. The Libyan regime did its best to get Col Kamougue to oppose the Chadian Leader. For Col Kamougue to decide to return home unconditionally to support the government is a great psychological blow that Libya cannot accept. It is the culmination of its setbacks with the CAC-CDR [Action Coordination Committee of the Revolutionary Democratic Council], the FDT [Chadian Democratic Front], with Goukouni Oueddei and Kamougue, as well as its diplomatic defeat at the Fifth ICO Summit in Kuwait that made Libya throw itself fully onto the battlefield.

Thus, the number of its soldiers in northern Chad increased from 8,000 to 15,000 within a month. Tanks, transport trucks, [words indistinct] have greatly increased and many more arrive almost daily.This is a true indication of Libya's escapism and one cannot exclude the possibility that Libya may launch large-scale fighting in the next few (?days). Yesterday's bombing of Fada was perhaps a prelude. The return of Col Kamougue, though it may not please the Libyan Government, is one more positive result of the discreet policy of national (?reconciliation) and concord being pursued by the Chadian authorities and which is bearing fruit daily. The return was made possible by the realistic attitude adopted by a man who placed the country's interests above all other considerations. Psychologically overwhelmed and militarily defeated, what is left for Libya to do now?

CONGO

Foreign Minister Meets New-GUNT Official

AB042123 Paris AFP in French 1853 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] Brazzaville, 4 Feb (AFP) — A delegation of the new-GUNT (armed opposition to the Chad Government) was received here today by Congolese Foreign Minister Antoine Ndinga Oba.

During the meeting, new-GUNT Foreign Minister Facho Balaam, leader of the delegation, handed Mr Oba a message from new-GUNT President Acheikh ibn Oumar to OAU Chairman Denis Sassou-Nguesso.

In a reference to Colonel Wadal Abdelkader Kamougue, former GUNT vice president, who decided to return to Ndjamena, Balaam said his government did not think much of the return. It is a defection like many others and it will not have an impact on GUNT, he added. Kamougue yesterday in Libreville announced his return today to Ndjamena.

Balaam explained that the neo-GUNT president's message touched on the reactivation of the peace process in Chad. Balaam expressed the view that the Chadian conflict could only be resolved within the OAU framework. This is why GUNT backs the OAU chairman in his efforts, he added.

LIBERIA

President Doe Addresses National Legislature

AB292255 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
1630 GMT 29 Jan 87

["First annual address" by President Samuel Kanyon Doe to joint session of the National Legislature in Monrovia — live]

[Text] Mr Vice President, Mr Speaker, Honorable members of the National Legislature, Mr Chief Justice, and members of the Supreme Court, members of the cabinet, Mr Chief of Staff and members of the Armed Forces of Liberia, prelates and members of the clergy [words indistinct], and fellow citizens:

We have shouldered high bearing the sword and mantle of our austere responsibility and by the grace of Almighty God, we stand here on this historic occasion to deliver our first annual message to your honorable body since the commencement of the Second Republic. We thankfully acknowledge God's manifold blessings and love and hereby commit ourselves to his protection, preservation, continuous guidance, and direction. It is therefore with great joy that we again happily convey to your honorable members of the National Legislature our welcome to the seat of government.

Strengthened by your complete commitment for the further advancement and continued progress of our country, we feel assured that your deliberations during this second session of the 50th legislature will be done to the credit of the nation and the upliftment of all our people. It is gratifying to note that the judiciary worked in concert with both the Executive and Legislative Branches in keeping with the Constitution of the land and continue to enjoy the confidence and support of the public.

International Relations and Foreign Affairs: During the period under review, international relations continued to be characterized by a heightening of tension in major regions of the world. Weapons of war cut up peace and security in some areas of Asia, Africa, Latin America, and the Middle East, thus creating arenas of confrontation.

In the economic realm, the global economic crisis did not experience any relief because of the reluctance of the developed world to accept a gross reform for the establishment of the more equitable international economic order. As a result, the problems of underdevelopment, rising population, economic recession, and the escalating external debt burden [words indistinct] most developing countries.

On the African Continent, there was an overall improvement in relations among member-states of the Organization of African Unity [OAU] as sincere efforts were made to address the burning desire affecting the continent. In view of the critical economic crisis confronting African countries, the 21st assembly of heads of state and government of the OAU called for the holding of the special session at the UN General Assembly to consider this matter. Prior to that meeting, member-states of the OAU prepared a detailed document highlighting Africa's priority program for its economic recovery from 1986 to 1990. This document identified those economic and agriculture reforms to be undertaken by African countries within the context of self-reliance and also what role the international community could play in the achievement of Africa's economic recovery. It also aggreed that an approach to Africa's economic recovery should cover all aspects of developing transcending the notions of (?marketed) measures and depth of crisis and embracing long-term solutions. A framework of understanding was adopted in which Africans committed themselves to create structures required for initiating long-term self-reliance programs for socioeconomic growth and development.

It is important to note that for the first time the United Nations adopted a global and integrated approach to economic problems on the African Continent and thus acknowledged the unique nature of the issues at stake in African economies. In this connection, this government will spare no efforts in undertaking national programs in support of the measures recommended for Africa's economic recovery.

During the period under review, several political developments on the continent clearly demonstrated a new spirit of African brotherhood and solidarity when hostility between some African states were peacefully resolved. The Republic of Zaire, which suspended its membership in the OAU, returned to our continental organization. After several years of hostility, Ethiopia and Somalia were able to bury their hatchets and normalized their relations. Mali and Burkina Faso also peacefully resolved their border conflict. Similarly, Liberia and Sierra Leone have restored their relations which had been restrained since the 12 November 1985 abortive invasion led by the late Thomas Quiwonkpa. We commend President Lansana Conte of Guinea and President Ibrahim Babangida of the Federal Republic of Nigeria for their mediatory role in resolving the differences between Liberia and Sierra Leone.

All of these peaceful resolutions of African conflicts attest to the statesmanship of the African leaders directly concerned and their willingness to resolve their differences the traditional African way. In spite of the political gains on the African Continent, the questions of Western Sahara, the Comoro island of Mayotte, and Chad continue to defy a peaceful resolution, despite the efforts by the OAU and the United Nations to have all of the parties to these disputes resolve their differences. In the case of Chad, the crisis has been further aggravated by the involvement of Libyan troops in that conflict, in violation of the territorial integrity of Chad.

Members of the legislature, one matter which all African countries continue to be concerned with is the liberation struggle in South Africa. The past 12 months have witnessed an escalation of South African suppression of its black majority in both South Africa and [word indistinct], and the intensification of attacks, economic blackmail, and acts of destabilization against the Frontline States. Despite numerous resolutions adopted by the United Nations and the OAU, the racist South African regime continues to illegally occupy Namibia and to obstruct the implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution 435 of 1978 on Namibia's independence. In South Africa itself, the situation remains [word indistinct] as black South Africans continue to demonstrate their growing militancy and (?unpreparedness) to continue to live under the inhumane and criminal apartheid system. The Government of Liberia will continue to support the liberation struggle in southern Africa and require all countries desirous of peaceful change in that region to impose comprehensive and mandatory sanctions against South Africa. This legislation was intended to facilitate government's (?purchase) of foreign exchange so to render the order to [words indistinct] debt obligations. Unfortunately, as you are all aware, the problems of inadequacy of foreign exchange has not been resolved due to the fact that major exporters are only now beginning to comply with the scheme. In this connection, the Government of Liberia notes with satisfaction the disinvestment by some countries and multinational companies of their assets in South Africa.

In other regions of the world, particularly in the Gulf region, the period under review was characterized by escalation of tension. The ongoing Gulf war between Iraq and Iran has continued to wantonly destroy human lives in the two countries, engendered warplay, and undermined international peace and security. As a result of the war, there have been several attacks on international shipping, especially [words indistinct]. We urge the Governments of both Iraq and Iran to respect the rights of innocent passage on high seas.

Another disturbing development over the past years have been the upsurge in the rate of international terrorism. This modern factor in international relations poses a serious threat to the peace and stability of our world and must be effectively combated by all countries. It was in consideration of this development that we approved the legislation enacted by this honorable body last year which imposed the death penalty on anyone found guilty of either associating or actually engaging in acts of terrorism.

Honorable ladies and gentlemen, we entertain the hope that in spite of the existence of dangerous conflicts, there will be a better commitment by all countries to the principles of peaceful coexistence and noninterference in the internal affairs of other states in pursuance of a more stable international order. We commend the Federal Republic [as heard] with the commitment to the traditional foreign policy objectives of Liberia. Accordingly, Liberia continues to maintain relations of cordiality, goodwill, and mutual respect with all friendly nations and peoples and in particular with those nations which have diplomatic representatives accredited near this capital.

In furtherance of our policy of genuine nonalignment and the maintenance of friendly relations with all countries irrespective of ideology, Liberia reestablished normal diplomatic intercourse with the Soviet Union in July 1986.

Ladies and gentlemen of the legislature, as we pursue the goal of nation building, it is necessary that we also seek to intensify areas of cooperation with our neighbors as well as other friendly countries. In an effort to further strengthen the close ties of friendship and cooperation, and in the spirit of African brotherhood, we made a brief visit to Conakry, Republic of Guinea, in January 1986 at the invitation of President Lansana Conte. During the visit, our discussions centered around the involvement of our two countries in the (Nimba-Maketi) Project. Since that visit, several meetings have been held at the ministerial level between our two countries and we are happy to report that our two governments are committed to the full implementation of the project.

[Words indistinct] to achieve economic development in our subregion, we traveled to the Federal Republic of Nigeria in July as head of the Liberian delegation to the last summit meeting of the authoritiy of heads of state and government of the Economic Community of West African States, ECOWAS. During the summit, we conferred with several of our colleagues and took concerted action on many issues of importance to our subregion.

Due to the circumstances beyond our control, we were unable to participate in the 22d summit of heads of state and government of the OAU which was held last July in Addis Ababa. We were, however, represented by the foreign minister. That firmly reaffirmed our commitment to the economic development of the continent in the framework of the priority program for Africa's economic recovery and our support for the liberation struggle in Namibia and South Africa.

We attended the eighth summit of the Nonaligned Conference Movement held in Harare, Zimbabwe, from 1 to 5 September 1986. Prominent among the issues discussed were the situation in southern Africa, the primary economic problems confronting developing countries, the question of disarmament, and the other issues of international concern. We seized the opportunity of our participation to exchange views with our colleagues on bilateral as well as international issues.

In the spirit of African brotherhood and solidarity, we visited our brother and colleague President Gnassingbe Eyadema of Togo in October to convey our sympathy for the invasion of Togo. We later returned to Togo to attend the Franco-African summit meeting upon the invitation of President Gnassingbe Eyadema.

In our continued effort to pursue cooperation with other countries, we made an official visit to the Socialist Republic of Romania in October upon the invitation of President Nicolae Ceausescu. Following our visit to Romania, we were pleased to receive in Monrovia on 20 November 1986 President Lansana Conte of the Republic of Guinea and President Joseph S. Momoh of the Republic of Sierra Leone at which time a tripartite treaty on nonaggression and security cooperation was entered into by the three governments. This legal instrument is now pending before your body for ratification. It is hoped that the coming into force of this treaty will help guarantee peace and security in our region.

Honorable members of the National Legislature, our minister for foreign affairs was unanimously elected chairman of the Council of Ministers of the OAU at the council's 44th ordinary session. This special honor bestowed on Dr. J. Bernard Blamo is a further indication that the Second Republic of Liberia is enjoying a prominent international standing and is shouldering its responsibility in the OAU as Africa's oldest state. [applause]

A full report from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will be submitted to your honorable body in due course. However, we wish to bring to your attention a recommendation contained in his report for your consideration.

It has been observed that the Liberian Corporate Act [words indistinct] annually to the government. Secondly, the Business Corporate Act, Section 1.7, provides for an annual registration fee of $100. This sum has not been changed since 1960. Hence it is recommended that the fee be increased by 50 percent from $100 to $150.

Ministry of Planning and Economic Affairs: Liberia, like many other developing countries, depends largely on an export-oriented economy which is [word indistinct] on external market forces. The performance of our economy has been less considerable as the GDP declined over the last 5 years at an (?unselfish) rate of 4 percent. In his report, the minister of planning and economic affairs observed that the sluggish performance to the economy resulted from the low activity in the mining, forestry, and manufactoring sectors. This situation has [word indistinct] revenues, whereas leaving the country with large deficits which make it difficult for government to readily implement important development projects. This negative trend has not only [words indistinct] capacity of our nation to conform to the consumption and economic needs of the growing population.

We also [words indistinct] problem. At the same time the situation was further aggravated by a negative net capital inflow which caused government some difficulty in repaying its outstanding debts and in mobilizing resources for development.

As we entered fiscal 85/86, we were optimistic that the economy would show a positive sign of improvement. However, our goals [words indistinct] could not be achieved due to very little improvement in some sectors.

Ministry of Finance: [Word indistinct] report by the minister of finance, actual revenue collection in the year under review registered at $172.6 million, the lowest collection in 5 years. This disappointing collection was a direct result of the drop in tax collectors' [words indistinct] including domestic production and international trade.

To reduce the budgetary imbalance, the money [words indistinct] cut back from more than $10 million to about $7.5 million. This was made possible by the 25 percent across the board salary reduction and the 9 percent reduction of personnel which was accomplished by retiring 600 employees and declaring 1,800 positions redundant.

[Words indistinct] to a minimum and since fiscal 1986 a freeze was imposed on all public construction projects for the remainder of the fiscal year. In my last [words indistinct] 1986 economic policy affairs of the nation, we announced the following additional measures aimed at containing the deficit:

One: The elimination of extra budgetary expenditures;

Two: Discounting the purchase of revenue offset and mortgaging;

Three: Abolition of some duty privileges;

Four: [Words indistinct] implementation of a comprehensive import inspection scheme.

To effect the partial or total privatization of public corporations provided by the March 1986 act of the legislature [words indistinct] and is presently initiating discussion with potential investors. Against the background of a depressed economy, government in September 1986 published a 3-year economic recovery program, ERP, which identified the priority areas for immediate action:

One: Improving the performances of the export sector;

Two: Improving the overall investment climate;

Three: Revising the fiscal deficit and reducing debt repayment arrears.

The third is the key to the ERP success and some progress has been achieved in this regard. Thus the outstanding arrears due to the World Bank and the European Investment Bank were liquidated in September 1986. Total debt service payment for the first half of fiscal 86/87 amounts to $26.6 million which is close to the budget preview of $39.0 million.

Halfway through the fiscal year, the expenditure figures are running below estimates which give cause for optimism. During the past year capital flight continued on a large scale thereby eroding the monetary base. As a last resort, government infused new Liberian $1 coins into the system in an attempt to offset the falling level of deposits. However, the introduction of the new coins did not ease the liquidity problem because U.S. currency together with Liberian coins became subjected to widespread hoarding by some unscrupulous businessmen and individuals.

[Words indistinct] devoted by government to the problem, (?have arisen) in the operation of our currency arrangement, particularly the decline in the amount of U.S. dollar in circulation in Liberia. A detailed study on this subject has been prepared by the staff of the International Monetary Fund and it is now being studied by our experts. This is a matter that by its nature requires close study and careful deliberation. Another area of concern is the solving of our international (?monetary commitments). The government in recent times has come under increasing pressure to settle the public sector debt. But its inability to make substantial payment against this huge debt has led to the suspension of the disbursement of loans by some of our creditors, thus having an adverse effect on Liberia's credit worthiness. In keeping with the 1986 act of the legislature, 25 percent of the foreign exchange derived from oil exports were to be surrendered to the National Bank of Liberia against local currency. That legislation was intended to facilitate government's purchase of the foreign exchange [words indistinct] in order to discharge its external debt obligations. Unfortunately, as you are quite aware, the problem with the inadequacies of foreign exchange have been resolved due to the fact that major exporters are only now beginning to comply with this measure.

Ministry of Agriculture: For the past 45 years, we have (?relied) almost exclusively on imported food to feed ourselves. As a result, substantial amount of money has been expended on this food import, particularly rice. According to the minister of agriculture, government spends over $35 million annually on the importation of rice into the country. This (?trend) has serious implication for the nation especially at a time when its economy is experiencing difficulty. A much needed foreign exchange has to be utilized to purchace other commodities which cannot be produced locally. If Liberians could produce sufficient quantities of cash crops for export, this could save us a [words indistinct] of foreign exchange in the economy, in view of the decline of export earnings of our major commodities.

The Green Revolution: Against this background and (?to be able) to reverse the situation, we launched the Green Revolution Program in July 1986, with the principle objective of mobilizing the Liberian people to become involved in the agricultural production, both for domestic consumption and export. Accordingly, we mandated the minister of agriculture to formulate appropriate plans and (?policies) that would ensure the realization of this objective. The Green Revolution Program document was finalized and presented to us during the month of August 1986. While we are aware that there are [words indistinct] technical, managerial, and financial considerations to be dealt with for the successful implementation of the program, we are nevertheless pleased to note that the message seems to be getting to many of our citizens throughout the country and they are responding positively to the call to return to the soil. [applause] In order to accelerate the Green Revolution Program, we decided last year to award full scholarship to all students enrolled in the College of Agriculture of the University of Liberia. We anticipate that after the completion of their studies, these graduates will be assigned throughout the country to provide expert advice to local farmers. With this effort, we are attempting to lay the institutional basis for self-suffiency and substained growth. We shall continue to pursue the objectives of creating opportunity for our farmers to own equitable incomes from farming, to make more productive use of the nation's agricultural resources, and to increase agricultural output and food self-sufficiency.

As agricultural production increases, the consumer will benefit from more abundant and cheaper food supplies. Standard incomes to our farming population will result in an increased demand for non-farm goods and services, thus stimulating employment and business activities in other sectors of the economy. It is our strong conviction that agricultural production is a key to our future growth and it offers best hope for Liberia's economic recovery. In the near future, we shall be seeking permission of your honorable body to undertake a nationwide tour during which time we shall personally be assessing the progress they made in respect of our (?farming) activities.

Liberian Business Development Fund: Honorable members of the legislature, there are (?numerous) business opportunities available in our country. However, it is disturbing to observe that inspite of the slight increase in the number of Liberians engaged in small business activities, they are still far outnumbered by foreigners. Many of you will recall that in the past, our people owned and operated their own businesses and successfully competed with expatriate enterprises. For our part, this government has endeavored to encourage small Liberian businesses by establishing the Liberian Business Development Fund, LBDF, through the acquisition of the revolving line of credit of up to $10 million from the International Trust Company. [applause] Coupled with this effort, we believe that there is a necessity to provide training facility for Liberians and to give them adequate and necessary skills for rapid economic growth and development. The National Investment Commission, NIC, through collaboration with the Ministry of Commerce and the University of Liberia, is called upon to organize seminars and other workshops to enable small businessmen to obtain the necessary skills to facilitate the smooth operation of their businesses. However, with emphasis being placed on training, it is recommended that government considers management training as a national priority and that the various ministries and agencies supervise adequate funding in their respective operational budget for manpower development and training, and at the same be required to utilize and take full advantage of local training facilities.

The Ministry of National Defense: Like in the past, the principal duties of the Liberian Armed Forces is to defend and protect the nation. The minister of defense reports that the Army was engaged in several works, such as the construction of roads, bridges, housing, and is actively involved in the green revolution, having completed the planting of nearly 200 acres of coffee. [applause]

Being fully aware that adequate training makes a strong army, several personnel of the Armed Forces of Liberia were awarded both foreign and local scholarships to further develop their capabilities. The following recommendations were made by the minister of defense which we are pleased to bring to the attention of the National Assembly.

1. That the wife of an officer of enlistment who died [word indistinct] of duty receive [words indistinct] for the support of his many children until they attain the age of 21. [applause]

2. That all male students at the age of 16 or above be required to undergo 8 weeks compulsory military training. [applause] Other recommendations from the Ministry of Defense will be forwarded subsequently for your consideration.

Ministry of Justice: The minister of justice reports that inspite of government financial constraints, his ministry was (?alike) in the administration of justice in the country. He proposed that a priority consideration be given the police, fire, and immigration services to effectively (?stand) out like others. Concerned about the plight of prisoners, the minister also proposed that appropriate training be given in the field of professional [words indistinct] education so that when the inmates leave jail, they will be accepted on the job market and begin to make useful contribution to society. [applause] Other recommendations submitted by the minister of justice will be forwarded for your consideration.

Ministry of Youth and Sports: Since our incumbency we have implemented several policies aimed at accelerating the growth and development of sports in the country. During the period under review, we inaugurated a multimillion-dollar sports complex in Paynesville which was honored by the hosting of the six-nation tournament in Monrovia.

The human resources development is crucial to our nation-building process. Vocational training must be encouraged and broadened to meet demands and needs of our country. To achieve our socioeconomic development and reduce expatriate work force in the country, our vocational and technical training must be revitalized so as to respond to the development needs of the country. The minister of youth and sports will evolve a program designed to facilitate training of our youth for submission to your honorable advice.

Ministry of Health and Social Welfare: In our effort to improve health services for both urban and rural dwellers, the minister of health and social welfare reported that services were provided in the areas of immunization as well as control and prevention of communicable diseases. Effective health planning and management, health education, primary health care, and manpower training were also carried out to improve the performance of health personnel.

Furthermore, the newly constructed clinics in (Setuwe), (Sodiwen), Kara Town, and an [word indistinct] at the former T.B. Gayor Maternity Hospital in Bassa County, Bassa community, are now opened to provide medical services for adults as well as children under the age of 5. In spite of our financial constraints, the government shall endeavor to accord priority to the procurement of essential drugs, medical supply, and equipment for use by our hospitals and health centers throughout the country. In order to ensure the protection of the health of our people, it is recommended that the existing national legislation on ethical standards of medical resources be reviewed and amended to conform to acceptable standards.

Ministry of Education: At the commencement of this government, hopes were high that our expressed policy to reshape the educational system be quickly implemented. We have placed emphasis on educational reform including the certification of teachers and improving the supervisory network by providing more qualified and dedicated staff. This policy also called for improvement in logistics to facilitate mobility as well as making textbooks more readily available to students at a minimum cost.

Unfortunately, our efforts were seriously hampered by the teachers stay-home action and the resultant violent student riot on March 18, 1986. This interruption seriously affected the smooth commencement of the academic year. The minister of education reports that during the period under review, his ministry was able to commence the implementation of the teachers certification and salary schemes as well as introduce a residence policy for education officers.

The vast numbers of unpaid teachers, ineffective teaching methods, the lack of adequate and appropriate instructional material, the uneven distribution of available textbooks, and overcrowded classrooms form part of the major problems confronting our educational system. However, through the implementation of the improved efficiency of the learning project REL [expansion unknown] the government in collaboration with U.S. aid is endeavoring to upgrade the quality of education in public primary schools through a nationwide expansion of teachers' in service training and the production and distribution of REL.

It is also pleasant to note that a total of 250,322 students enrolled in the primary as well as secondary schools around the country. Of this number 156,055 were male while 99,273 were female. [figures as heard] We believe that the level of student enrollment is an indication of the desire of a growing number of Liberians to acquire education and thereby prepare themselves for the service of their country.

In his report, the minister of education has noted the lack of the Coordinating Body for Higher Education [words indistinct] rise to the establishment of several post-secondary institutions in the country (?without) proper control. In order to curb this problem, we recommend for consideration of the honorable body, the establishment of a national commission on higher education. In spite of this achievement, our educational system still does not have the capacity both qualitatively and quantitatively to meet the present increasing demand for (?literate) and skilled manpower. It shall be the continued effort of government to focus its attention and substantial portion of every resource on the improvement of this important sector. [Words indistinct] Liberian education, government intends to strengthen the University of Liberia, particularly the [name indistinct] College of Medicine. It is recalled that a few days ago, we made a personal donation to the medical college to assist it [words indistinct] and the general upkeep of the college. In the provision of health services in the country, we feel that the medical college could play a major role in training medical doctors. We shall therefore provide full support to the college.

The attitude of students in our educational system is of concern not only to the parents but also to government due to the high degree of indiscipline. We have done everything possible to encourage and promote academic freedom in our schools but some students have elected to ignore their studies and exhibit disrespect for authority and even resort to violence. We have now mandated the Ministry of Education to ensure that any student who engages in such unwholesome acts be expelled. [applause] We therefore urge all students to be tolerent and to devote their energy to their study, so as to improve themselves for the service to the nation.

Ministry of Public Works: The minister of public works reports that a critical look at the development plan of our roads in some sectors reveals that a substantial portion of our public road system is in a poor condition. Furthermore, he reported that the system can no longer be expected to provide the required level of service and easy access to vital areas of the nation. In order to properly (?solve) this problem, the current highway program of the ministry is focussing on the development of the nation's highway network, the development of a [words indistinct] construction industry, and improvement in the ministry's management.

In addition to the board [as heard], during the period under review, the ministry supervised the construction of several government projects, including the renovation of some major public buildings. Another problem which claimed the attention of the Ministry of Public Works, was the cleaning of the draining system in the city of Monrovia which usually poses a serious health hazard during the wet season. In an effort to give Monrovia a face lift, the (?zoning) regulations were enforced with some success. However, a number of shacks constructed in the alleys and the private properties were demolished along the freeway and in other parts of the city. We are hoping that at the end of this exercise, Monrovia will truly reflect the image of a capital city. Meanwhile, the Ministry of Public Works has submitted a number of recommendations for the improvement of facilities in the country and those requiring legislative action will be forwarded for your consideration.

Ministry of Lands and Mines and Energy: The minister of lands and mines and energy reported that the Liberian oil industry showed some signs of improvement in all major areas of activities during 1986 as compared to the preceding year. In the mining sector, production from both LAMCO [Liberian-American-Swedish Minerals Company] and BMC [Bong Mining Company] increased slightly by 1.3 million metric tons to 15.3 metric tons. Similarly, shipment in 1986 shows an increase over 1985 level. These increases were attributed partly to the [words indistinct] increase in prices and to the willingness on the part of the buyer to lift more iron ore than expected. The LAMCO joint venture is estimated to cease its operation at the end 1989. We shall continue to collaborate with the Government of the Republic of Guinea to ensure the successful implementation of (Massatin)-Nimba project. The minister of land and mines and energy (?informed us) that the labor force in the Liberian iron ore industry continues to decline, owing to the implementation of positive measures in fiscal 1986 and that conditions at the [words indistinct] ceased operations in March 1985, leaving about 2,000 employees without jobs. Because of the concern [words indistinct] particularly those affected by the closure of NIOC [National Iron Ore Company], government is negotiating with potential investors to take over the corporation or the mine as soon as possible. Government's efforts to develop the energy sector of the economy with respect to petroleum exploration have experienced some setback due to the decision of the two U.S. companies — AMOCO and (Real) Resources — to suspend their exploration activities.

This development is of major concern since government is endeavoring to develop the energy sector in order to substantially reduce the foreign exchange spent on energy imports. Nevertheless, in view of the importance we attach to the development of this sector, the government will continue to encourage new investments in this area. In addition, we have mandated those ministries and agencies whose functions relate to the energy sector to redouble their efforts in searching for alternative energy sources.

Ministry of Internal Affairs: According to reports from the minister of internal affairs, peace and tranquility continue to prevail in our various political subdivisions. The local mayors have expressed the willingness to continue to cooperate and work with government in achieving our development objectives and our citizens remain committed to self-help development projects despite the existing financial problems.

In order to (?orient) new realities to ensure an equitable and balanced socioeconomic development, four new counties were created. The former Bomi Territory was elevated to county status. [Name indistinct] and Kru Coast were merged to form Grand Kru County. Marshall and Gibi Territories became Margibi County, and Rivercess Territory a county thus bringing to an end a century-old territorial administration. [applause]

In order to ensure more effective local administration, we are considering the establishment of a presidential commission which will be required to review existing (?interior) regulations (?in order) to propose new ones which would better define the roles of a superintendent, an assistant superintendent, a district commissioner, a city mayor, a governor, and [words indistinct] among others. The commission will also be charged with the responsibility to review the present criteria for city and township status.

Ministry of Information: Under the policy of free communication, government policies and development-oriented programs are being transmitted to both urban and rural dwellers. This policy has been pursued because our's is an open government. Our citizens and residents must be adequately informed of our internal issues in order to avoid any misunderstanding about matters affecting their personal well-being as well as the state.

In this connection, the minister of information reports that during the period under review, all efforts were made to fully utilize the available print and electronic media in extending government programs and policies to the broad masses of the Liberian people and the world at large.

As a public manifestation of our desire to improve the level of communications in Liberia, we were pleased to break ground for the construction of a new modern radio station in Paynesville last August. We are convinced that when completed, this station will broadcast to all parts of rural Liberia and beyond. Equally so, under the rural communication program, several radio stations have been built in some of the [word indistinct] counties through a joint venture with the U.S. Government. Others are expected to be constructed in the future for the benefit of our people.

Ministry of Commerce, Industry, and Transportation: According to reports from the Ministry of Commerce, Industry, and Transportation, the Liberian market continues to experience unfavorable conditions such as the lack of foreign exchange and sporadic increase of blackmarketing activities. In order to encourage Liberians to (?help in administering) the economy, the government has decided to reduce the business [word indistinct] for sole proprietor (?share) from $200 to $100. [applause]

As a result, the domestic trade division registered 2,312 businesses of which 1,116 were owned by Liberians and 114 jointly owned by Liberians and expatriates. Liberia's participation or ownership in both the commercial and industrial sectors of the economy increased from 1,083 to 1,166 in 1986.

Regrettably, however, the report notes that the industrial sector as a whole is still on the decline thereby contributing less than 4 percent of the gross domestic product. One major factor which could be attributed to the decline in the industrial sector is the fragmentation of our industrial policy. There is, therefore, an urgent need to review this policy.

In an attempt to increase its revenue collection from foreign trade, the government announced a comprehensive import supervision scheme on April 7, 1986 in collaboration with Societe General de Switzerland, SGS, a Geneva-based prospection company. The implementation of the SGS scheme is currently being assessed in order to determine its impact on the nation's trade.

The Commerce Ministry report further indicates that Liberia's foreign trade, particularly import, continues to decline due to the limited availability of foreign exchange. This unfortunate trend is reflected in the drop in revenue. Foreign exchange problems have also hampered Liberian trade with member-states of the Economic Community of West African States and the Mano River Union.

The shortage of foreign exchange has escalated commodity prices on the local market thus affecting the purchasing power of our citizens. The minister of commerce reports that in spite of government efforts to protect import distribution and substitution industries, thereby reduce substandard goods which are sold to the Liberian people at higher prices relative to the similar imported goods. [sentence as heard] This unfortunate situation necessitates that we thoroughly review with the view to awarding the same industry on the basis of merit. During the year under review, we observed that companies operating in the Free Zone do not pay duty on imported raw materials. However, instead of exporting their products, they are placed on the local market, thereby subjecting companies operating outside the Free Zone to unfair competition. The Free Zone was established with the sole purpose of stimulating export-oriented production, and government remains committed to this policy. As we strive to open up our market, there is a need to review the existing investment incentive scheme so as to ensure fair business competition and avoid granting monopoly to one establishment. [applause] In order to promote local production, we recommend that a permanent site be available for the staging of a trade fair. It is also recommended that a (?purposeful) investment program be formulated which will allow the investor to enjoy equal benefit with respect to importation of machinery and raw materials.

Ministry of Labor: The Ministry of Labor reports that a plan of action was embarked upon to facilitate the workload of the ministry and promote a sound industrial relations system. In so doing, the ministry was able to handle all matters affecting records and management under the tripartite system consistent with the standards and procedures of the International Labor Organization. Because of the financial constraints, the ministry observed that some business establishments instituted cost-saving measures such as temporary lay-offs. To guard against further measures, the Ministry of Labor continues to enforce government's Liberianization program. We have mandated the minister of labor to curtail the issuing of work permits as well so as to ensure that qualified Liberians are placed in positions otherwise reserved for expatriates. [applause] The minister of labor, in collaboration with the minister of justice, will weed out from the employment market all illegal aliens employed in the private and public sectors of our economy.

Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications: In fulfillment of its mandate to maintain effective and efficient postal and telecommunication services, the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications in recent years has placed emphasis on national rural postal and telecommunication development. During the period under review, the minister reports that the quality of service offered to the public has significantly improved, thus restoring public trust and confidence in the ministry. Liberia continued to maintain a cordial relationship with international organizations and agencies with which it affiliates, and despite economic constraints, has been able to maintain its membership in those organizations.

Ministry of Rural Development: Consistent with our plan for rural development, government undertook several projects in the rural areas with a view to improving the living standard of our people. To effectively serve our rural areas, the Ministry constructed four rural post offices through the United Nations Development Program, Universal Postal Union, Rural Postal Services Grant. The minister of rural development reports that several markets were constructed as well as ad hoc infrastructural projects. Among the projects were the Nancy B. Doe (Jugmantown Down) market, the (Waterside) general market, the Redlight market, and Gbarga City market. Other projects undertaken included the construction of a 75-bed hospital in Tubman Town in Nimba County, the construction of the handicapped school building in Virgina, Montserrado County.

The ministry also completed 50 percent of the paving of the James Spriggs Payne airfield; the reconditioning of the (Ardington) Road; 60 percent completed of the rehabilitation of the (Father Kingsley) Mission Road in Bong County; as well as cleaning and landscaping of the Bomi County government hospital ground in (?Tubmanville). The other community-based projects completed were the southeastern self-help village development and the microproject program and the rural water program. Under the southeastern self-help development project, which operates in Maryland and Grand Kru Counties, agricultural and livestock services were extended to more than 30 villages where several village women were trained in home economics, gardening, breastfeeding, childhood diseases, and food preparation. The Ministry also constructed rural communication rural community shops in villages in Maryland and Grand Kru Counties, 42 schools, 5 clinics, and a market building in southeastern region.

Thirty community building projects were also completed in 7 political subdivisions [words indistinct] while 211 boreholes were drilled and 50 (?pilot) farms to be used by the residents in several villages and towns in rural Liberia.

Civil Service Agency: In our effort to improve efficiency and effectiveness, government will encourage a merit-oriented civil service. Having monitored the attendance records of the various ministries and agencies of government to ensure the requisite manpowers, the director general reports that the Civil Service Agency was satisfied with the attendance records of civil servants. t is our fervent wish that civil servants will rededicate themselves to their jobs, take a look at their performance, and strive for excellence so that much can be achieved this year.

Bureau of General Auditing: Honorable ladies and gentlemen, accountability is of serious concern to this government. Therefore, during the period under review, it became necessary for the General Auditing Bureau to conduct an audit of the financial affairs of 9 ministries and 10 public corporations including embassies abroad. In his report, the auditor general disclosed that out of the 19 audits, only three reports have been submitted while the balance 16 are still being prepared. The results of the auditor general's report together with the recommendation contained therein will be sent for your timely information.

Institute of Public Administration: Upgrading and improving the administrative capability of government, [words indistinct] public sector personnel, through research and consultancy, continue to form the major part of the Institute of Public Administration's [IPA] function. The director general reports that consultancy and experiments will be carried out at public corporations and public enterprises by personnel of the IPA in keeping with the institute's mandate.

General Services Agency: The director general of the General Services Agency [GSA] reports that his agency continued to fulfill its mandate in the purchase and control of government properties. In order to ensure coordination and control in the procurement and management of public properties, we shall continue to insist that the (?satellite) purchasing scheme be fully implemented and adhered to.

Furthermore, the provisions that government ministries and agencies avoid awarding of contract to individuals or firms for the renovation and maintenance of government buildings, except in instances where the same cannot be done by GSA, will be enforced.

Honorable ladies and gentlemen of the legislature, we have come a long way over the past years and must here reiterate our praises and thanks to the Almighty God for his wonderful blessing, guidance, and protection. In spite of many problems, we have been able to move forward as one nation and people.

Following our election in 1985 and thereafter, we have made many gestures and taken several initiatives to forge a government of national unity, realizing that although there are different political parties, there is no other party greater than the Republic of Liberia. [applause]

We believe that despite our differences, we are dutybound, as patriotic citizens, to be loyal to our country. This is why we have repeatedly called for reconciliation. Today we wish to renew this call to the leaders of political parties so that together we can move forward in ensuring the stability, the peace, happiness, and progress of our people. [applause]

In our call for genuine reconciliation we do so not out of fear, because as president of this nation, we are showing and remain duty bound to protect and defend our country in keeping with the Constitution and our unflinching commitment to the maintenance of multiparty democratic system of government. [applause]

On the economic front, we have highlighted some of the problems which confounded us over the past years and the measures taken by government to address them. We believe that one of the factors contributing to the low revenue intake is poor taxing methods and an ineffective tax administration. There appears to be a considerable lack of efficiency in the collection of certain classes of taxes, principal among which is the real estate tax.

We therefore recommend that immediate steps be taken so that a countrywide assessment of all rural estate property can be made in order to facilitate the efficient collection of outstanding as well as future real estate taxes. Moreover, we have learned that some officials of government are using their offices to promote their personal well-being at the expense of the state, by demanding large sums of money from investors as a condition for the processing of their investment documents. [applause] As this unwholesome practice has discouraged potential investors from our country, we wish to emphasize that this must be discontinued immediately. Any government official found engaging in this practice will be dealt with according to the law. [applause]

There is no doubt that one of the greatest challenges confronting our nation is our ability to achieve economic recovery. We are committed to this objective and we rely on the assistance of the Liberians and the cooperation of this honorable body. In addition to the message already outlined, we will, in the next few weeks, undertake an indepth assessment of our economy; the problems, the prospects, a full report will be made to you.

Honorable ladies and gentlemen of the legislature, we are confident that in spite of our economic difficulties, the prospects for recovery are relatively promising. [applause] We believe the rate at which the economy is expected to recover over the next few years is directly related to the prospect of increasing public and private investment and for enhancing the nation's foreign exchange earning capabilities.

As such, in order to improve prospects for a more promising economic environment within the next few years, we shall pursue our Green Revolution Program, ensure prudent public spending, and encourage investment. However, faced with the uncertainty of greater external assistance commensurate with our demands and our improbability of a greater short-term return on our major export commodities, there is an urgent need to reduce unnecessary recurrence of unproductive expenditure to cope with the diminishing rate of revenue intake.

To ensure our economic development, we must meet the challenge of eliminating the bottlenecks and needless bureaucratic procedures in implementing approved projects under our recovery plan.

We must encourage and conserve our internally generated resources as well as respond to internal economic signals for productive efficiency and self-sufficiency. We must meet the challenge of paying our income and other legitimate taxes and thus guarantee a more efficienct and equitable distribution of the national product across the land.

As we strive to achieve national economic and financial security, we must also ensure that our national defense is secure. This will require the strengthening of our military command, rigid enforcement of discipline, and the elimination of all corrupt practices in every area of our national life. As we demand faithfulness, efficiency, and honesty of our civil servants, we must insist on preparedness and (?alertness), integrity, and responsibility of our military and paramilitary personnel.

Notwithstanding, we are convinced that the greatest security of any country lies in its ability to provide for the welfare of its people. In this connection, government has instituted a national social security scheme. We are concerned, however, that the national pension scheme, the major component of this program, is yet to be fully launched. We have therefore mandated the management of the social security welfare corporation to complete the modality for the early launching of this scheme. [applause]

We must not relent in our drive to build this nation but continue to press forward, become more cost-conscious, and strive for greater efficiency in the operation of government. The planning and the budgetary process must reflect effective coordination and control. It is important that the various ministries and agencies of government synchronize their activities in order to enhance cooperation and assist government achieve its objectives.

In our commitment to social progress, all Liberians must make their contributions by regularly paying their legitimate taxes. Our citizens in general must have deeper concern for public property and (?lease) for the nation. All Liberians must have, as their supreme goal, the interest and welfare of the state and be inbued of the keen spirit of civil responsibilities. We shall not condone the abuse of civil liberties by people who assail the character of their fellow citizens under the guise of freedom of expression. We must always bear in mind that all rights end where the rights of others begin and the same must be protected and secured. [applause]

Similarly, we will not tolerate the action of people who have the honor and privilege of making, interpreting, enforcing the law to break those laws with impunity. [applause] [passage indistinct]

Honorable ladies and gentlemen of the legislature, fellow citizens, with praises upon the powers of future times, with steadied arms of (?patience) and commitment, we must move forward and translate into reality our hopes for building a better tomorrow. I ask the grace of Almighty God that all strive to build a nation characterized by peace and progress where the Liberian people [words indistinct] can truly live as one people. May God bless the work of our hands and save the state. I thank you. [applause]

ANGOLA

Interior Minister Marks 4 Feb Anniversary

MB041357 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Speech by Angolan Interior Minister Rodrigues Kito at a rally in Sumbe, Cuanza Sul, marking the 26th anniversary of the launching of armed struggle for national liberation — live]

[Excerpts] Comrade members of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee; comrade members of Cuanza Sul party provincial committee; comrade members of the national committee of the party Youth Wing, Angolan Women's Organization, and National Union of Angolan Workers; comrade members of defense, security, and internal order; comrade members of mass and social organizations; dear comrades and compatriots: The square is full of people; I believe this demonstrates the importance of this date. [passage omitted]

Dear comrades and compatriots, our revolution is a popular revolution. Thus, the party has been combining efforts to increasingly consolidate national unity, by implementing the (?policy of clemency) proclaimed by late President Agostinho Neto in Cabinda in 1978. The party has been enacting the policy of national harmony by giving the opportunity to some compatriots to integrate within the society — compatriots who have not been vigilant in the past and have let themselves be decieved by false political promises made by ambitious and reactionary people, compatriots who chose political paths which did not correspond to the most profound desire of the overwhelming majority of our people. Our people's and party's unshakeable desire to give every opportunity to deceived compatriots still in the bush or outside the country to return and actively particiapte in national reconstruction, together with all those who with abnegation and perseverance are laying the foundations for the creation of a new and prosperous fatherland, free from exploitation of man by man, demonstrates the immense forgiving capacity of the heroic and generous Angolan people toward those who deliberately or otherwise have, for many years, carried out actions which only served to satisfy imperialist designs.

Angola is a big country. Its citizens' efforts and capacity should be used toward the vital utilization of its natural and economic resources. This is necessary to make Angola a developed country where every citizen may enjoy the fruits of honest work and our country's wealth. Our enemies are aware of this reality and that is why they try to divide us. We must heighten our vigilance because it is only when we are strongly united that we can overcome this new challenge. Imperialist tactics are always the same everywhere in the world — to divide and conquer.

Comrades are aware that after the party's historic second congress, there were good prospects for the normal development of our life. However, in January last year, the situtation changed drastically with the fall in world oil prices.

This situation, engineered by imperialism to strangle the economies of countries which, like Angola, depend on oil, upset our lives. That is why our party had to take urgent austerity measures to stabilize the country's financial situation, ensuring the defense of our working masses interests.

However, the enemy does not give up. It seeks to make our life even more difficult by various means. As Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos very clearly stated in his New Year's message to the nation, quote: Besides economic sabotage and covert disobedience, the enemies of our revolution want to use the corruption of state — cadres, workers, and enterprises — to achieve their reactionary objectives in the future, unquote.

We must add to all this the great burden of war, destablization, and plunder waged by imperialism against us through racist South Africa and its puppets. The anachronistic apartheid regime has created a dangerous situation within its borders which it can no longer control. The majority of the black population has risen up against this racist system. Incapable of stopping the impetus of popular uprising which results from discrimination and oppression, South Africa makes false accusations against neighboring countries, blaming them for its own internal situation. The People's Republic of Angola is the main target of these accusations. They now claim that Angola is setting up a major millitary base, about 300 km from the Namibian border, which threatens South Africa's security. Using the pretext that its forces are pursuing SWAPO combatants, South Africa carries out aggression against our territory, massacres our people, and destroys economic infrastructures.

Furthermore, in the wake of offensives by our glorious FAPLA against the notorious UNITA gang, South Africa always appears as the lifebuoy that prevents UNITA's total disappearance. [passage omitted: slogans]

This situation aims foremost at perpetuating that anachronistic regime, creating a permanent climate of tension in this region, and above all diverting the international community's attention from the real problems of southern Africa: Namibia's independence and the elimination of apartheid.

Angola is a sovereign country that does not have expansionist intentions. Our revolution occurs within our borders. What we do and will always do is give our help and express our solidarity with the South African and Namibian patriots fighting the anachronist apartheid regime. This is an internationalist principle which is linked with our political and ideological principles. We are ready to salute all peoples of the world struggling against all forms of oppression and discrimination.

Esteemed comrades and compatriots, the blood shed by our fatherland's order to guarantee the defense of our gains impelled our party to make efforts to strengthen our Armed Forces. Our Army (?has grown) and developed in accordance with new demands and characteristics (?of this war). In this context, our party leadership decided to create a new class of general officers in the Army. This was an imperative need for our Army. [Words indistinct] Armed Forces demands urgent measures to strengthen our capability to respond to the demands of war. Despite the numerous defeats they have suffered, our enemies continue to act with cynicism and hypocrisy. On one hand, the finance, organize, and encourage (?subversive) and counterrevolutionary activities and on the other hand, they are interested in cooperating with our sovereign and independent country. Our experience tells us to be ever more vigilant and attentive to imperialist tactics. We must strengthen the (?structure) of the Armed Forces, as well as their combat preparedness and unity with the people. There is the need to constantly perfect military organization and strengthen sole command with authority over all military and paramilitary units. In this context, these are urgent steps that must be taken to harmonize and coordinate Army performance as well as maximize all units' combat capabilities. [passage omitted]

In conclusion, I would like to appeal to our people yet again to be vigilant. The members of the MPLA-Labor Party, JMPLA, and mass and social organizations must redouble their vigilance and close ranks behind the MPLA-Labor Party, to prevent cracks in our midst and take all room for maneuver away from the enemy. Let us observe the main task indicated by our party and our beloved Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos. To our internationalist comrades from Cuba and the USSR — who experience and suffer imperialist aggression with u — we would like to express our sincere gratitude and desire to increase our friendship ties [words indistinct] our countries and peoples.

Long live 4 February! [chant: Long live!] Long live proletarian internationalism! [chant: Long live the MPLA-Labor Party!;Long live!] Long live national unity! [chant: Long live!] Long live Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos! [chant: Long live!] From Cabinda Province to Cunene Province, one sole people and one sole nation! The struggle continues! Victory is certain! Victory is certain! Victory is certain! Thank you. [applause]

Savimbi Denies Zaire Conduit for U.S. Weapons

MB041638 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 1500 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] UNITA has denied the report in *The New York Times* which says it receives U.S. weapons via Zaire. The leader of UNITA, Dr Jonas Savimbi, in a signed statement issued in Lisbon, says his organization has never ever received any military help from Zairian soil and it has no intentions to do so. He was reacting to a report in a U.S. newspaper where it is alleged that the CIA last year, on three occasions, flew armaments into abandoned air fields in southern Zaire for transshipment into neighboring Angola.

President Mobutu of Zaire has repeatedly denied that his country is used as a conduit for the supply of weapons to UNITA. Last year, U.S. help to UNITA topped more than $30 million, but U.S. officials are reluctant to acknowledge this in public.

NAMIBIA

SWAPO Accuses U.S. of Independence Delay

MB050805 Harare Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 5 Feb 87

[Text] SWAPO, the sole legitimate representative of the struggling people of Namibia has once again accused the United States of delaying Namibia's independence. A charge was made in Luanda yesterday by Comrade (Meroro), SWAPO's national chairman during a briefing on Namibia's struggle, to a delegation of journalists from the Soviet Union currently visitng Angola. Comrade (Meroro) said this country is being held hostage over an issue that links the presence of Cuban internationalist (?parties) in Angola for Namibia's decolonization. The SWAPO official told the delegation that the so-called alien government of black puppets in Namibia will soon collapse because it has no support or mandate from the oppressed majority. He said the people of Namibia regard the leaders of the interim government as outcasts.

SOUTH AFRICA

Further on Parliament No-Confidence Measure

President on Media Restrictions

MB041550 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1547 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] House of Assembly February 4 SAPA — The State of Emergency restrictions on the press would be lifted tomorrow if the members of the National Press Union [NPU] would discipline themselves, the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, said today. He said he had already made this offer to the executives of the relative newspaper groups but they had "come up against their own editors" and finally rejected the offer. The offer included the acceptance of the government's guidelines for a system of self-discipline and followed on briefings given to editors and media executives during November and December last year.

Mr Botha was replying to opposition criticism on press curbs during the no-confidence debate and referred to his April 1979 speech in parliament shortly after he had become prime minister.

"In essence I said I accept press freedom, the right of criticism and the press's right to be the watchdog of the public. I also said I believed a free press is a responsible press."

On November 28 last year he had told the media bosses: "We cannot continue like this." He told them that wittingly or unwittingly they were playing into the hands of a devilish enemy. "The bloodletting in the black townships would still be going on if we had not taken the TV cameras out of there."

On December 5, at a subsequent meeting, he suggested that the emergency restrictions could be lifted from the NPU member newspapers if they would apply self-discipline, "and certain guidelines were given them." The media bosses were in agreement but after meeting resistance from their editors they turned down the offer on December 9.

"I am prepared to lift those restrictions tomorrow if the media is prepared to accept self-discipline according to the guidelines given them," he said.

Forms Media Watchdog Group

MB041600 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1559 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] House of Assembly Feb 4 SAPA — The state president today announced the formation of a special committee to deal with media reporting of political speeches during the forthcoming election campaign. The committee would comprise the leaders of the opposition parties and certain members of the cabinet, whom he would name.

The electorate had the right to be as fully informed as possible so they could exercise their votes as they saw best and the State of Emergency media restrictions were not intended to hamper legitimate political expression in the forthcoming general election, Mr P.W. Botha said. Speaking in the no-confidence debate, he invited opposition parties to discuss the matter with the committee. The government had not intended to, nor did it, interfere with parliamentary privilege.

Mr Botha also assured members of parliament, following "representations of concern" made to him from some quarters, that parliamentary privilege was assured in the Public Safety Act, in terms of which the media restrictions were formulated. The government had never intended to interfere with this in any way.

"The government's view is that the media regulations were needed for the maintenance of public order, public safety and the end of the State of Emergency."

In an election campaign, however, there should be as much freedom of expression as possible because the electorate had a right to be fully informed in order to cast its vote as it saw best. The media restrictions were not aimed at restricting legitimate expression of political views by parties and their candidates, but at reportage of illegal actions which endangered the maintenance of public order and safety.

Supports Black 'Self-Governing'

MB041708 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] The state president, Mr P.W. Botha, says the National Party believes the country must continue to grant blacks living in urban areas outside the national states opportunities to obtain self-governing structures. Speaking during the no-confidence debate in the House of Assembly, President Botha emphasized that the Assembly had the right to award rights to groups of people who did not have those rights under the old colonial system. He said that it was a broadening democracy to give groups the right to express themselves in respect of matters affecting them.

President Botha rejected criticism that the government was not holding dialogue with blacks in the country. He pointed out that there had been in-depth talks recently with scores of black representatives from urban areas. He said that scores of organizations had been formed on lower government levels to look after the interests of black communities, but the problem was that members of such organizations were in danger of being murdered by terrorists. President Botha said that the black urban communities had asked the government for protection so that they could live in peace and educate their children.

Pleads for 'Distinct Communities'

MB041816 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1814 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] House of Assembly February 4 SAPA — The state president, Mr P.W. Botha, today pleaded for the retention of distinct communities and their community structures as an essential building block in constitutional development. He said, in response to an interjection, that if groups did not want this, they should be convinced.

Mr Botha was speaking during the no-confidence debate and said he had not given any official instruction to the President's Council regarding its committee's report on the Group Areas Act. He knew as much about the content of the draft report as anyone who had conversed with members of the committee. He had merely requested the President's Council to make sure that it had covered every possible aspect and thereby ensure it would not have to launch a second investigation later.

The fact was that the Group Areas Act, a most complicated piece of legislation, had created vested interests over the years. "My view is that these vested interests cannot be ignored. I also hold the view that the devolution of power and the protection of minorities cannot take place without recognition of own residential areas for the various communities. I plead for the retention of community life, for community management and participation in community structures."

"What if they don't want it," Mr Harry Schwarz (PFP Yeoville) asked.

"Then they must be convinced," Mr Botha said.

Offers Independence to Black Areas

MB041847 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1841 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] House of Assembly Feb 4 SAPA — The state president, Mr P.W. Botha, said today he was prepared to give full independence to autonomous black urban areas in South Africa as they developed. Speaking on the third day of the no-confidence debate he said this was a continuation of his government's policy to expand democracy in the country and grant rights to people they had never had under the British colonial system.

Responding to the speech at the start of the debate by the leader of the official opposition, Mr Colin Eglin, the president said the Progressive Federal Party leader could do better "with a positive attitude. Rather criticise us for what we are not doing yet in implementing our policy than break down what we have built up over the years with so much care."

Mr Botha said parliament was, and would remain, the primary factor in moves to give rights to people that had not had them under the colonial system — an inheritance he was prepared to eliminate. He wanted to know if Mr Eglin would, if he won the general election "by some accident," dismantle the government structures established in the independent and self-governing homelands.

"No, of course he would not...never...because those people would not allow him to do so...I challenge the honourable leader to go to the TBVC [Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda, Ciskei] and self-governing states to convince them to come to me and say they don't want the structures established for them."

Mr Eglin could never achieve this and it was clear that opposition parties could, if they came into power, only expand on what had been built up so far. "This is because it is an expansion of democracy...millions of people that did not have the vote now do," Mr Botha said. The government had to continue the process, implemented in the rural homelands, to the black urban areas where fully autonomous institutions had to be developed. "As long as I live, I am prepared to give them (the black urban areas) full independence if they want this," the president said.

He dismissed opposition criticism he and his government was not consulting and negotiating with black communities, saying the opposite was in fact the case. He personally had received many delegations from black urban communities and had even visited some of the townships for in depth discussions to find out what the problems were.

Referring to the SATBVC [South Africa TBVC] multi-lateral discussion forum established over the last few years, and the government's work at setting up local government authorities in the black urban areas, Mr Botha said Mr Eglin was "totally wrong" when he alleged the government did not have a "pattern" for the future. "If former British protectorates like Lesotho and Botswana can be independent, so can Transkei and Bophuthatswan." It was true both these states had to be developed and assisted financially and with advice, but South Africa was prepared to render these services, just as it was prepared to do so for its other independent neighbouring states in southern Africa.

Defends State of Emergency

MB050457 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2107 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] House of Assembly, February 4, SAPA The State of Emergency and security action avoided a bloodbath planned for South Africa between December 16 and 25 last year, the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, said today. Speaking during the no-confidence debate, he said security forces had "fetched" documents outlining ANC terror plans for the festive season.

He read from one such document dated November 1986 titled "Informational Report (Mzwandile)" programme worked out jointly by the UDF, COSATU and other organisations. The document reported that "COSATU, however, as usual is dragging its feet." Some elements were unhappy that the project was UDF dominated. It continues: "The State of Emergency led to the collapse of the UDF office in Transvaal which in turn led to the collapse of various contacts that office had made." Each person had apparently established his own contacts and these, complained the author, were seriously disrupted with the collapse of the office "and the detention or disappearence of many cadres." There was no inspired leadership in the area.

The document then outlines plans for establishing a broad white front and reveals the existence of a group called JODAC [Johannesburg Democratic Action Committee].

Mr Botha said JODAC was a white organisation formed in February 1984 to oppose the new Constitution. It included a large number of small organisations such as the Black Sash, the SA Council of Churches, the End Conscription Campaign, and NUSAS [National Union of South African Students].

The document says a "Mr Jeff Budlender, a human rights lawyer" and A.Z. Sisulu initiated a broad white grouping, which would include JODAC and an organisation the name of which Mr Botha would not reveal for security reasons.

The document said the PFP was to be included but did not attend the first meeting "because, according to them, they did not receive the invitation in time."

JODAC was opposed to the coalition which was urging broad confrontational action which JODAC was not in a position to lead. The author pointed out to the meeting that "we favour a broad white front." This front by its composition would be limited with limited objections. "The whites must be organised for the ending of the emergency, the release of all detainees and the unbanning of all banned organisations."

The documents then records that JODAC "or the white progressives" lacked a dynamic leader and discusses the merits and demerits of certain individuals.

Mr Botha said it was important that South Africans should know that the ANC had not taken a new direction. The organisation had not suddenly become more accommodating and less bloodthirsty. The 75th anniversary statement of the organisation's president, Mr Oliver Tambo, proved that the central theme of the president and his national executive was a call to war.

Mr Botha quoted Mr Tambo as saying the war should be taken to the enemy and that apartheid should be attacked where its forces were concentrated, "striking powerful blows at the enemy's military, economic and administrative structures and resources." The "democratic revolution" was the first phase of a revolution in which the broadest possible front would be united for a "national liberation."

Much thought had been given to the mobilising white support within the ranks of the ANC, Mr Botha said. This could be deduced from many ANC publications. Their views could be summarised as follows:

They are overjoyed that white politicians, businessmen, spiritual leaders and students speak to them. They see it as a sign that the South African society is in the process of collapsing and that such visits enhance their legitimacy at the cost of the government." [quotation marks as received]

Assures Freedom of Debate

MB050513 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2055 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] House of Assembly Feb 4 SAPA — The state president, Mr P.W. Botha today assured members of all political parties of their right to freedom of speech during the coming general election campaign. Speaking during the no-confidence debate, Mr Botha invited leaders of political parties taking part in the election, and who had expressed the view that their rightful political activites would be inhibited as a result of the emergency regulations, to meet together with a number of cabinet ministers in a committee to discuss the resolution of this problem.

Mr Botha said that he had received representations from various sectors — some in good faith — about two issues in connection with the restrictions placed on the media during the State of Emergency.

The first of these was the question of parliamentary privilege and in which way the right of freedom of speech was affected by the media's possible inability to fully report the content of speeches made in parliament. It was an integral part of parliamentary privilege that parliament itself decided which of its proceedings could or could not be published, and this was confirmed in the Public Safety Act, in terms of which the State of Emergency had been declared. It had never been the government's intention to impinge on either of these two inherent rights.

The second issue was about the degree to which the media regulations could affect candidates and political parties participating in the coming elections and to the degree these regulations could affect what they may or may not say; and what could be published. While it was the government's standpoint that the regulations imposed on the media were in the interests of public order, the safety of the general public and the ending of the State of Emergency, the government also believed that election campaigns should be conducted in the greatest degree of freedom with open and responsible discussion by all participating parties and individuals wanting to put across their views.

It was essential that voters be as well informed as possible in order to exercise their choice in a responsible manner. The government, therefore, did not intend curbing any person legitimately participating in the election from expressing his views in the campaign.

Mr Botha said the view he had expressed should not be interpreted as condoning any action or statement which would further the interests of South Africa's enemies.

Rejects Criticism of Cabinet

MB050619 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0555 GMT 5 Feb 87

[Text] House of Assembly Feb 4 SAPA — The leader of the opposition, Mr Colin Eglin, was welcome to make as much out of the enlarged number of deputy ministers appointed in November, but he would not be allowed to dictate to the government how the country should be administered and managed, the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, said today. He was responding during the no-confidence debate to criticism by Mr Eglin that the 20 deputy ministers were a "waste of money and not necessary."

Defending their appointment, as well as the size of the cabinet and other ordinary ministers in the government and self-governing states, Mr Botha said this was a trend followed in most Western democracies. It was "the essence of good management to have deputy ministers and under ministers."

The South African Government had 19 cabinet ministers, 20 deputies, six chief ministers and 53 "ordinary" ministers, while there were 30 million people in the country.

In contrast, the United States, with a much larger population, had the equivalent of 20 cabinet ministers in its federal system, and there was a secretary of state for each of these. Each also had one deputy, three under ministers, and 16 assistant secretaries. There were a total of 61 deputy assistant secretaries and in the U.S. states there were a total of 250 ministers.

A similar procedure of deputy ministers, junior ministers and parliamentary secretaries was adopted in the United Kingdon and in West Germany, which had a different system, there were 149 ministers.

"The honourable leader of the opposition is welcome to make as much politics out of this as he wants but we will now allow him to dictate to us how we run the country," Mr Botha said.

Eglin Rejects Botha Election Offer

MB050928 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0915 GMT 5 Feb 87

[Text] Cape Town Feb 3 SAPA — The Progressive Federal Party had no intention whatsoever of going to cabinet ministers who were National Party candidates in the election for relief from the emergency regulations, the leader of the opposition, Mr Colin Eglin, said today.

He was responding to a speech made by the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, in the House of Assembly yesterday in which Mr Botha invited party leaders who felt their campaigns might be restricted by the emergency regulations to meet with a special cabinet committee to be established by himself.

Assuring candidates that they would not be gagged by the regulations, Mr Botha said the regulations were not intended to stifle legitimate political activity.

In a statement today, Mr Eglin said as far as the PFP was concerned the rights of political parties taking part in elections should be written into the law "and not depend on concessions from National Party cabinet ministers.

"The state president's suggestion shows that he has no real appreciation of the concept of parliamentary democracy or of the basis of free and fair elections," he said.

Further on Botha's Remarks

MB041954 Johannesburg Television Service in Afrikaans 1800 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Report on speech by South African President P.W. Botha to parliament during no-confidence debate in Cape Town on 4 February by correspondent Freek Robinson; passages within quotation marks recorded; broadcast with a still of Botha on-screen]

[Text] [Robinson] The state president says South Africa would have been plunged into a bloodbath if strong security measures effected between 16 and 25 December last year had not been adopted. Speaking during the no-confidence debate in parliament today, Mr P.W. Botha revealed that the reported contacts with banned organizations such as the ANC by Barclays National Bank's Managing Director Chris Ball will be investigated shortly.

In a speech lasting nearly 2 hours, Mr Botha laid great emphasis on security matters. He offered firm justification for the continuation of the State of Emergency, recalling successes achieved by security forces in December.

[Botha] "I want to say to the country that were it not for the unprecedented security measures that this government and its security forces undertook between 16 and 25 December last year and for a time thereafter, this country would have been plunged into a bloodbath."

[Robinson] With regard to ANC President Oliver Tambo's reportedly prudent speech made earlier this year, Mr Botha observed that those who saw prudence in that did not recognize the decoys the ANC uses. In the meantime, Mr Tambo has also issued a call to war. An ANC document shows that the organization is wedded to the South African Communist Party. In the document, the ANC admits that it will disrupt the State of Emergency. The ANC has also made it clear that it will use the contacts with the PFP business leaders, and other organizations to further its political ends. Mr Botha referred to recent newspaper restrictions, saying that it had been determined that some of the press were promoting the interests of the ANC, making it necessary to forbid such action, and that this also applied to the managing director of Barlcays Bank, Mr Chris Ball.

[Botha] "On the radical left it is said that Mr Chris Ball provided the financing for our opponents. A sum of 150,000 rand is mentioned. Mr Speaker, I, and I am certain the rest of the South African nation, will want to hear properly from Mr Ball the truth about this matter. This thing will be investigated; this thing will be investigated, and I am sure of that! We shall strip it to the bones."

[Robinson] Mr Ball denied a short while later that he had any financial deals with the so called terror groups. He challenged Botha to repeat his statement outside parliament where he would be liable to a legal suit, unlike in parliament where he enjoys parliamentary immunity.

In his speech, Mr Botha also referred to talks he held with newspaper chiefs during November last year. The press bosses were not prepared to act or accept the reponsibility of reporting within the suggested government lines. They were not prepared to accept that. Mr Botha repeated their answer.

[Botha] "I say the State of Emergency restrictions would be lifted tomorrow if the members of the National Press Union would discipline themselves, if they accepted the principles of responsible reporting covered in our talks last year."

[Robinson] Mr Botha gave his assurance that freedom of speech in parliament and the reporting of issues from parliament will soon be clarified. He also assured freedom of speech during the election campaign.

[Botha] "I invite those leaders of political parties who are participating in the elections, and who will be campaigning as required by the process of democracy, to discuss some of the issues with the people who I will appoint to that job. Then we shall look further into what can be done."

[Robinson] Mr Botha also referred to the role of television.

[Botha] "I admit that television is a very useful tool in any land; it is quite an influential factor in the promotion of arts, science, and several other disciplines. Gentlemen, television can also be sued to sabotage social structures; some films shown are not in the interest of peace in South Africa. It is a repetition of murder scenes, and I say that it is not in the interests of the land."

[Robinson] Concerning constitutional developments, Mr Botha declared that as long as he lived he would strive for the extention of self-government to urban blacks, whereby they might reach the status of city-states. Mr Botha did not delve into the report on the Group Areas Act, reportedly stalled in the President's Council. The question of the Group Areas Act was discussed in the President's Council today.

Vlok on State of Emergency

MB050630 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2114 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] House of Assembly, Feb 4, SAPA — The government did not plan to lift the State of Emergency in the near future, the minister of law and order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, said today. Speaking during the no-confidence debate, he said the State of Emergency worked to the benefit of the people of South Africa.

Mrs Helen Suzman (PFP Houghton) had said in the debate that she did not believe the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, intended lifting the State of Emergency. "The honourable member is right," Mr Vlok said. "The State of Emergency works to the benefit of the people of South Africa." Mrs Suzman had said it was difficult to negotiate on constitutional issues during a state of emergency but it was impossible to do so during a time of chaos, Mr Vlok said.

"The State of Emergency is not a goal in itself but an instrument to restore order so we can go on to develop people."

Referring to information given by Mr Botha in a speech earlier in the debate on the success of the State of Emergency, Mr Vlok said this data came "from the inner circles of the ANC."

Asked by Mr Frank le Roux (CP Brakpan) why the previous State of Emergency had been lifted, Mr Vlok said the government believed in negotiation and had thought it would "give the people a chance."

"But then they kicked us in the teeth. But the government was man enough to say, we won't give in, and then we imposed the second State of Emergency. That's the test of a good government," Mr Vlok said.

Pik Botha Comments on Canadian Diplomatic Ties

MB050718 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 5 Feb 87

[Text] The South African minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, says it will serve no purpose for South Africa and Canada to uphold relations if the Canadian Government is thinking of breaking diplomatic ties with South Africa. Mr Botha was responding to repeated suggestions by Canada's prime minister, Mr Brian Mulroney, on his recent African tour, that Canada cut all ties with South Africa.

Mr Botha said in an interview that it was Mr Mulroney's right to have diplomatic relations with whichever country he chose to. He said that if it was the feeling within the Canadian Government, then there was nothing that one can do but accept it.

Treurnicht: Pik Botha U.S. Remarks 'Theatrics'

MB050642 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0550 GMT 5 Feb 87

[Text] Johannesburg Feb 4 SAPA — It was time the foreign minister, Mr Pik Botha's "Jekyll and Hyde" relationship with the United States was exposed for what it was — "a transparent scheme to attract voters back to the laager of the National Party for the forthcoming election, the leader of the Conservative Party, Dr Andries Treurnicht, said tonight.

Dr Treurnicht said in a statement: "His pre-election theatrics using the United States as the bogey man is a 10-year-old National Party trick and is not going to work this time around. The voting public is well aware of the perilous state of the economy and is also aware of the enormous sums of cash pouring into this country from organisations in the United States to undermine the existing order in South Africa. Why doesn't Mr Botha stop this flow?

"Why doesn't Mr Botha take action to effect the arrest of Klaus de Jonge? Is his government so weak that they allow this Dutch terrorist to make a fool of South Africa? Why does Mr Pik Botha allow American film companies to dictate internal policy to South Africa and to intimidate South African citizens in contravention of the laws of this country? Why is it always the CP who must take action while Mr Botha merely prattles?

"He accuses the Conservative Party of promoting communism, whilst prominent National Party people hold discussions with the ANC," Dr Treurnicht said. "The secret meeting with the ANC in New York by the leader of the Broedrbond, Professor de Lange is a chilling example of how the NP is playing into the hands of the communists.

"It is not the Americans who are the cause of the violence in the black townships but weak National Party government, and we urge the voters to confront Mr Botha with these facts whenever he waxes eloquent against the Americans," Dr Treurnicht said.

Emergency Cuts Unrest Incidents 70 Percent

MB031741 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1736 GMT 3 Feb 87

[Text] Johannesburg Feb 3 SAPA — Cases of unrest in South Africa decreased by 70 per cent in the second half of last year — after the introduction of the State of Emergency on June 12 — the Bureau for Information said in a statement today.

The number of deaths also decreased "dramatically" during the second half of the year, dropping from 665 to 251.

This showed the introduction of the State of Emergency had "saved lives and protected property," the bureau said.

During the last six months of the year the number of unrest incidents averaged 20 a day — compared to 68 a day from January to June.

The statement says that incidents of stone throwing has remained the dominant type of incident since September 1984.

Of deaths, the bureau says that a daily average of 3.7 deaths was recorded from January to June in comparison with a daily avarage of 1.4 for the period July to December — a decrease of 62 per cent. "The sharp contrast between these two periods becomes increasingly apparent when the figure of 157 deaths recorded in May and the 161 deaths recorded in June, are compared with the November and December figures of 25 and 25 respectively," the bureau states.

The security forces were responsible for 34.8 per cent of the deaths recorded during the period from January to June and 30 per cent for the period from July to December, while black agitators were responsible for 65.2 per cent and 70 per cent of the recorded deaths during the comparable periods.

Of the 916 unrest-related deaths during last year, 52.3 per cent was due to the "various abominable forms of death by burning."

The bureau states that the figures indicated "very clearly" that the State of Emergency "saved lives and protected property."

If the State of Emergency had not been announced "there would have been a sharp increase in the level of unrest incidents during the period July to December.

"While the first goal, namely the restoration of law and order, has been achieved to a high degree in most townships, the second goal, namely normality, has only been restored in part in the black townships," the report says.

It added: "The ability of radical and revolutionary organisations to disseminate propaganda in certain parts of the country and, resultingly, of creating perceptions which activate the black population to turn to unrest and violence, is adequate enough to the extent that counteractions are still deemed to be imperative."

Commentary on Emergency Report

MB050531 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 5 Feb 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] The sharp decline in unrest-related incidents since the declaration of a State of Emergency, detailed by the Bureau for Information this week, clears up at least one major point of contention. The figures leave no doubt, first, that drastic action had to be taken against the wholesale violence, and second, that the action taken under the State of Emergency in the first 6 months has been exceptionally effective. In comparison with the previous 6 months the number of incidents of violence has fallen by 70 percent and the number of deaths — most of them by burning — by nearly 60 percent.

The statistics are all the more remarkable when the earlier trend of the violence is considered. Not only was it escalating rapidly until June last year, but the unrest situation as a whole had more or less come under the control of revolutionary elements — as the incidence of politically targeted necklacings showed. All the evidence pointed to further deterioration had the trend not been reversed by the countermeasures adopted under the state of emergency.

With the reversal underway attention now focuses on the State of Emergency itself: When can it be lifted? Obviously the security measures cannot be an answer to a situation of political unrest which has a variety of causes. Their purpose is solely to restore law and order, after which it becomes a political affair, calling for action in that sphere.

Conversely, it would be foolish to remove the security measures — to lift the State of Emergency — before the purpose has been accomplished and a climate has been created in which the political initiatives can succeed. In short, to the extent that unrest is the result of genuine grievances it can only be dealt with politically. It is to the extent that the grievances are exploited to spread violence and anarchy, that unrest is a security matter.

Maintaining an acceptable level of law and order, which includes eliminating the ability of radical groups to intimidate the population, must remain a priority goal for the country. It is important not only in itself but to be able to move on to the real answers that lie in the political sphere.

It is the essential basis for implemenation of the next step, which has been described as the reconstruction stage. Black areas which have been ravaged by anarchic groups destroying buildings, rendering the provision and expansion of services impossible and obstructing all development efforts, must be assisted in reestablishing normal life.

As that proceeds, so also will rational political debate be strengthened and create the opportunities for constructive reform.

A climate of stability — the removal from community life of revolutionary coercion — is the first requirement.

Radio Freedom on Botha's Call for Elections

EA041637 Addis Ababa Radio Freedom in English to South Africa 1930 GMT 3 Feb 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] Compatriots, last Friday, the whole of our country and the rest of the world were treated to an arrogant reaffirmation by the apartheid ringleader, Pieter Botha, that the evil system of government will continue unchanged. Like all other dictators who are losing the control of the situation, Botha stood last Friday pretending that he was still in full control of the political and economic situation in the country. Instead of addressing the burning issues of our time, the fascist leader did his best to assure and confuse followers that all was still the same. He repeated his old statements, indicating to his followers that he would never betray the volk.

Instead of addressing the issue of the escalating liberation struggle inside the country and the need for his hated regime to give way to the popular representatives of the people, Botha blamed the victims of his brutal violence for defending themselves against his evil methods of rule. As usual, he criticized the people's organizations, the ANC and its allies, together with the broad democratic movement of our people, for stepping up the struggle for peace and equality in our country. He further blamed the neighboring states for the escalating mass resistance inside South Africa, and threatened them, saying his murderous forces will leave no stone unturned to defend the system of white minority domination. He promised our people more brutal repression, boasting of the might of the murderous apartheid armed policemen and troops.

He, who is responsible for the massacre of so many people throughout southern Africa had the cheek to blame the victims of state terrorism for the violence of the apartheid system. Botha also flung an insult in the face of his best friends internationally, telling them in no uncertain terms that he has no need for their advice. He vowed that his regime will go it alone rather than bow to the demands of the world population to dismantle the evil system of apartheid.

Those who have tied themselves to the hopeless policy of so-called constructive engagement are now reaping the bitter fruits of the policy which has encouraged the obduracy and arrogance of the apartheid regime.

The racist leader also announced the holding of whites-only elections on 6 May. (?This Nazi) decided on calling for early elections so as to ascertain [as heard] the position of his party within the white community. It also intends to head white racists back into the laager by giving them the wrong impression that everything is still the same. Whites can still hold their own elections and decide the future of the majority without their consent. Botha is calling for elections in 3 months time to seek a mandate from his electorate to introduce more repressive measures to defend the system of white minority domination. He is giving the whites an impression that they are still in full control of the situation in our country, and that everything has to be decided by them.

[Words indistinct] Botha is diverting the attention from the main issue of the day. Instead of listening to the demands of the majority, he, instead, is going back to the same policies that have plunged our country into the crisis in which it is today. It is precisely because the majority of the population in our country has no voice in the running of the country that we are experiencing the bitter and deepening crisis today. Therefore, for Botha to try to solve the problems by calling on the whites to give him another mandate he is not addressing the root cause of the (?matter). These elections will not solve anything, but rather they will further encourage Botha to intensify his repression. Botha is calling for the elections precisely because the country is in crisis. He is summoning his followers to the polling booths because the State of Emergency and other repressive measures that go with it have failed to suppress the mass uprising of our (?land).

Dear compatriots, by calling for elections, these hidebound racists are intent on emphasizing in practice their belief that the whites alone have an exclusive and God-given right to decide the fate and destiny of our country and people. Therefore, the time has come for us to declare in action that enough is enough; so far; no further. At a time when we are laying down our lives every day for our birthright to decide our own future, Botha has no right whatsoever of ignoring our demands, and instead listen to those who have plunged our motherland into this bitter crisis. At a time when the burning demand is for a people's government elected by all our people on the basis of one person one vote, to talk of white-only elections is tantamount to ignoring those demands. Therefore, whatever the results of those elections, we shall consider them like the elections themselves, null and void and without legitimacy whatsoever.

Since these elections were being called precisely to ensure that we remain in permanent slavery, we have a task to demonstrate our opposition. Let us therefore in our millions vote against racism and apartheid, not in the polling booths but in the streets of our cities, towns, townships and villages, in the factories, in the mines and in the farms. Let us assert our will in mass political struggle and through a heightened armed offensive, and put paid to the arrogant designs of the Bothas and the Malans. Let us repeat what we did with the racist Republic celebrations in 1961 and in 1981, and transform these racist elections into the swan song of the apartheid regime.

Botha called these elections to ascertain his electorate that everything thing is still all right and that there is no crisis. We, therefore, have to show our white compatriots that our country is in crisis by intensifying our struggle right inside the white suburbs (?and cities). Let us attack the symbols of apartheid rule which are situated in white areas.

Let us raise the level of our attacks and increase the number of our blows, so as to show them that what Botha promises them is nothing but a death trap. As long as our struggles are confined within the black areas, our white compatriots will continue to believe Botha's lies that he is still in control of the situation. Let those who serve to defend the system that is organizing the (?farce) elections also suffer for their evil (?services). The police and soldiers of [word indistinct] must be punished for their defense of the hated apartheid system. We must force the racists to turn their attention to the real issues of the day: the transfer of power to the hands of the majority and the transformation of our country into a democratic entity.

Our people want freedom now. We have rejected, and we shall continue to reject, any attempts to solve the problems of our country without our consulation. Let us therefore turn Botha's attempt into a weapon against him. Let us use these elections to drive more and more wedges between the enemy ranks by stepping up our struggle. Let the people's war flourish in all its dimensions in every part of our country.

NRP, Others View Group Areas Report Delay

MB041909 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1905 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] President's Council, Feb 4 SAPA — The President's Council report on the Group Areas Act had been referred back to the council for political purposes, the leader of the New Republic Party, Mr Bill Sutton, said today. Addressing the council on a PFP motion on the referral, he said the government had "chickened out right down to their yellow feet" over the controversial report and had wasted an opportunity to do something great for the country.

There would be a question mark over the report in whatever form it returned to the council, he said. "A report handled in that fashion, for political purposes, can only come back to this chamber retreaded and second hand. The public will want to know why the report was not proceeded with at that stage."

The report's referral back to the council's constitutional committee was a symptom of the lack of leadership in South Africa, Mr Sutton said. "The way to handle it was not to hide it under the table until after the election but to have the courage to grasp the nettle and debate it in the open."

Mr Sutton denied statements by National Party speakers and members of coloured and Indian parties that the report was a preliminary one and that its referral back to the constitutional committee by the council's steering committee was in order. "It would suit the government very well indeed if government members could say there never was a report. But the factual situation was that the report was complete and ready to be laid on the table until somebody, without reference to the committee, decided to refer it back." Members of the constitutional committee had been preparing to sign the report and the only matter left to resolve was who would have signed, when it was referred back to them, he said.

Earlier, Mr Nic Treurnicht (NP) said the report had "by no means been finalised" and that it was merely a "concept report." It had been presented to the chairman of the steering committee in that form. There had been important criticisms of the report, to the extent that it appeared the constitutional committee had not reached consensus, Mr Treurnicht said. There were also questions over whether the constitutional committee had stuck to its original assignment.

In the meantime, Mr Treurnicht said, the report was leaked to the press. This was a situation so serious that "you might as well throw the concept report in the wastepaper basket." In the light of the questions over the report and "the points that had not been cleared up," the steering committee decided to refer it back to the constitutional committee for clarification, he said.

Both Mr Treurnicht and another NP speaker, Mr Japie Basson, said the Progressive Federal Party were using the report to score political points before the election. Mr Treurnicht said the council had gained grat respectability among the public and had come to be seen as an objective body but that "no group has done more to destroy the image of the President's Council than the PFP." Mr Basson said the PFP was trying to "mislead the public on the function of the council and to consign this body to the rubbish heap along with the UDF and the ANC."

A Labour Party member, Mr F.G. Backman, said the PFP had introduced its motion "to manipulate the issue for political gain without taking into account the feeling of people of colour."

He said coloureds and Indians felt very strongly about the group areas act and some newspapers and political parties appeared to exploit "every issue" to "embarrass the government."

The motion was a case in point. The constitutional committee had not produced a final report. "Was this a deliberate act to discredit the President's Council or to gain political mileage at the expense of people of colour? I speak as a man who has suffered the indignities of the race bar. I cannot allow my people to be manipulated for political gain," Mr Backman said.

A member of the ruling National People's Party in the House of Delegates, Mr A.W. Tiry, also said the report had not ben finalised when it was referred back to the constitutional committee. The PFP motion was vague and contained no definte proposals to change the rules of the President's Council.

His party rejected the motion in the strongest terms.

Moving the motion earlier, Mr Pieter Schoeman (PFP) said the integrity of the council was at stake and it had to be determined if the referral was the result of "government pressure." "Did any member of the steering committee discuss the report with the state president and were instructions given to refer the report back beacuse of his convictions on the Group Areas Act?" Mr Schoeman asked. He referred to statements by the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, that the Group Areas Act would not be removed from the statute book while he was in power.

Mr Schoeman also referred to press reports of leaks about the report and said these had created strong expectations among the public that a major reform announcement was in the offing. The sudden referral back to the committee had led to criticisms that the President's Council was being "manipulated as a rubber stamp" of the NP. According to the rules governing procedure of the council, Mr Schoeman said, only the council and not the steering committee was empowered to refer a report back to the constitutional committee.

In his speech, Mr Sutton said the re-referral of the report was "a political manoeuvre which can only bring the standing of the council into serious disrepute."

Buthelezi: Government 'Unenlightened' on Indaba

MB041720 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] The secretary of the Natal-KwaZulu Indaba, Professor Dawid van Wyk, says the government's rejection of the Indaba proposals has not come as a complete surprise. He said in Durban today that although there were fundamental differences between government policy and the Indaba proposals, this did not prevent the parties from continuing discussions. The Indaba's executive committee is to meet on Monday to discuss the issue.

Meanwhile, the chief minister of KwaZulu, Chief Buthelezi, has described the government's approach to the Indaba as unenlightened and precipitously in favor of party political propaganda. He says the National Party does not want any real test of public opinion on issues which fall outside its party political framework. Chief Buthelezi says negotiations should lead way from the politics of prescription.

Emigration Rate Rises Slightly for 1986

MB041917 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1907 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] Pretoria Feb 4 SAPA — The migration of residents from South Africa continued through November last year to bring the number of emigrants for the first 11 months of last year to 12,815. A total of 980 people emigrated in November to contribute to a net loss of 6,294 residents for the 11-month period, compared with a net gain of 6,156 for the same period in 1985, Central Statistics said in Pretoria today. Some 2,165 professionals emigrated — a 50 percent increase over the number of 1985.

Despite the "hard times", 26,500 South African residents took holidays abroad during the 11-month period, while 10,500 businessmen left in search of deals — moderate increases over the same period in 1985.

However, the number of students who left to broaden their minds overseas dropped from 340 to 238.

Bomb Explodes at Cape Town Bus Shelter 5 Feb

MB051144 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1142 GMT 5 Feb 87

[Text] Cape Town Feb 5 SAPA — A bomb, presumed to be a limpet mine, exploded in a bus shelter in Rondebosh, Cape Town at about lunchtime today, a Bureau for Information spokesman in Pretoria confirmed today.

Details were sketchy at this stage but a woman was reported to have had her hearing damaged by the blast.

The roof of the bus shelter, in main road near Klipper road, was blown off and a number of windows of nearby houses were shatterd, the spokesman said.

"The bomb was placed inside the bus shelter, and it is presumed it was a limpet mine."

The explosion took place between noon and 1pm.

Police were at the scene, and no other injuries had been reported.

Further details would be released later.

Report Issued on 4 Feb Unrest Incidents

MB050833 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0830 GMT 5 Feb 87

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 5, SAPA — The following is the unrest report from the Bureau for Information, Pretoria, for the period 0h01 to 24h00 yesterday.

"Two black youths set fire to a school in Soshanguve (Pretoria) yesterday. Little damage was caused and both the youths were arrested. No injuries were reported.

"Other reported unrest-related incidents comprised isolated stone throwing and petrol bomb attacks on private homes and vehicles in only three SAP districts.

"No injuries or arrests as a result of these incidents were reported and damage was reported as being minimal."

Press Comments on Current Problems, Issues

MB050739 [Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN Criticizes U.S. Political Naivety

A page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *The Citizen* in English on 4 February says the U.S. is "prepared to talk with Oliver Tambo, the leader of a terrorist organization." "It is trying to intervene in South Africa to bring an end to White rule and, heaven forbid, to allow the ANC to take over and make this a one-party Marxist state in which major sectors of the economy will be nationalised and there will be no freedom for anyone. No wonder Foreign Minister Pik Botha says the Americans can send rockets to the planets, 'but when it comes to judging decisions on earth they are hopeless'. He might have added, but didn't, that they are politically naive and, in the South African context, a danger not only to South Africa but to the whole subcontinent."

THE STAR: Foundation Not To Conflict With Government

On page 16 of Johannesburg *The Star* in English on 4 February Colleen Ryan speaks to the director general of the South African Foundation, Kurt von Schirnding, saying Von Schirnding, "believes the private sector has a pivitol role to play in creating a new South Africa. He said it was natural there would be difference of opinion in the foundation, 'but you cannot get away from the fact that it will become involved in the political process.'" Schirnding points out that the foundation "should not be seen as a pressure group in conflict with the Government because that would be counter-productive." "Asked what his views were on negotiations with the African National Congress, Mr Von Schirnding said: 'You cannot ignore the ANC,'" and "'in the long run you are going to speak to the ANC. The point is, when?'"

BUSINESS DAY Condemns NP Appeals to Racial Loyalty

Johannesburg *Business Day* in English on 4 February says in a page 6 editorial that during the elections "few politicians will stand out because what they say commands attention and what they believe in strikes a responsive cord. One of these is Colin Eglin, an often underrated leader who is changing the perception of the Progressive Federal Party from a perpetual opposition to a political force with a role to play in a post-apartheid government." "Eglin accuses government of undermining confidence in SA's economy and of adopting policies that made sanctions inevitable. He sees the results of economic mismanagement in the inflation rate, in retrenchment and unemployment, in business failures and in deteriorating social conditions." *Business Day* believes that other "disillusioned former Nationalists," and "other thinking people" will "doubt the will and the wisdom of the Botha government. In the nature of SA politics, the main response will be personal and political denigration. When all else fails, Nationalists will abjure reason and fall back on emotional appeals to sectional and racial loyalty. The country deserves better."

SOWETAN: DPSC Invites Ex-Detainees to Tea Party

Page 2 of Johannesburg *Sowetan* in English on 4 February carries an advertisement by the Detainees' Parents Support Committee (DPSC) inviting the parents of detainees and ex-detainees to a tea party to be held at a Methodist Church Hallon Saturday 7 February. The advertisement also notes that: "Special emphasis will be given to the plight of children in detention. All children released from detention are especially invited to attend."

Rent Boycott Continues

The page 6 editorial notes that "the sooner the authorities realise that the rent boycott is running into months in some areas and years in others, the better." "It is becoming increasingly clear that the various town councils do not have the talent to solve the problem." "There are many South Africans, black and white, who would be able to suggest a reasonable acceptable way out of this mess. It is not going to be easy." The paper says the town councils are "simply puppets who do very little thinking or planning on their own. And the Government has made no significant move to suggest a dignified way out of the dilemma."

BEELD: Tambo Loses Touch With Changes

A page 8 editorial in Johannesburg *Beeld* in Afrikaans on 4 February says that "when one lives abroad for a long period of time then one loses touch with what is happening in one's country. That is precisely what has happened with ANC leader Oliver Tambo. Not only is he ignorant of the changes that have occurred in his absence, but he underestimates the situation completely." "The flattery of the world has also blinded Tambo and caused him to blunder in the U.S." *Beeld* says Tambo is "no second Martin Luther King, and is not concerned with freedom for all, but is moving towards a dispensation where there will be no freedom for anyone. If South Africans were to see more of him this would become more apparent. It would be a rude awadening for more than just a few people."